FBIS DAILY REPORT

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GDR'S MBFR ENVOY CITED ON PROGRESS AT TALKS

LD071604 Moscow TASS in English 1505 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Vienna, February 7, TASS--It is for the 226th time that participants in the talks on mutual force reductions in central Europe gathered at Hofburg Palace here today for a closed plenary session. It was addressed by Ambassador A. Wieland, head of the GDR delegation.

The press attache of the GDR delegation told pressmen that in his today's statement A. Wieland said that the German Democratic Republic, in full agreement with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, will invariably and persistently follow its policy of strengthening world peace, deepening detente and achieving disarmament. There can be no reasonable alternative to the policy of peaceful coexistence. In this sense, the position of the socialist states with regard to the Vienna talks remains clear-cut and unchanged, stressed the leader of the GDR delegation.

The socialist countries adhere to the only realistic and concerted concept, they believe that the specific objective of the Vienna talks is to facilitate the establishment of more stable relations and strengthen peace and security in Europe through an effective and mutual troop and arms reductions in what is an especially dangerous zone of central Europe, as was pointed out in the final communique of preliminary consultations of June 28, 1973. Only strict observance of this accord by all negotiators can bring benefit to the peoples of Europe.

Citing concrete examples, the leader of the GDR delegation showed that the compromise initiatives put forward by the socialist countries in Vienna, help achieve this objective. At the same time he pointed out that the proposals made by the West in December last year do not represent a step forward in this direction. He mentioned a number of facts which lead the socialist countries to conclude that the Western proposals are eventually aimed at supporting chiefly the recent NATO armament programs. The proposals of the Western side do not meet the principles and aims of the Vienna talks which were agreed upon in 1973. What the West presents as "concessions" to the socialist countries is only an attempt to secure unilateral advantages for itself. The latest Western proposals show that the NATO states are evidently not yet ready to use the major forum of the Vienna talks for accomplishing their tasks, namely for drafting an agreement of an effective reduction of military confrontation in central Europe.

SOVIET, OTHER STANDS AT GENEVA DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE NOTED

LD062244 Moscow World Service in English 1300 GMT 6 Feb 80 LD

[Text] The Disarmament Committee has begun a new round of talks in Geneva, our correspondent there reports.

This time delegates of all the 40 countries, members of the committee assembled in the Palais des Nations in Geneva. They are expected to discuss such pressing issues as nuclear disarmament measures, a general and complete ban on nuclear arms tests, a ban on chemical warfare and on the development of new kinds and systems of mass destruction weapons, as well as several others.

Among urgent global issues the need to curb the arms race and bring about disarmament stands out as most prominent. The Soviet Union realizes this well. As one of the sponsors of the Disarmament Committee, the Soviet Union has repeatedly submitted for its consideration major proposals designed to ease tension in the military field.

Many of them materialized in concrete international agreements that barred the way to the arms race to some extent. The attention of the public was recently focused on major proposals for reducing military tension and achieving disarmament advanced by President Brezhnev in Berlin and also on the proposals in the field of disarmament introduced last year by the Foreign Ministers Committee of the countries members of the Warsaw Treaty Organization. The committee's proposal for a convocation of a European conference on the easing of tension in the military field and on disarmament becomes esepcially topical in view of the latest developments in Europe.

Local observers feel that the current aggravation of tension in the military field is a poor contribution to the successful outcome of the Disarmament Committee's session. The decision of the NATO strategists to deploy medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe has aroused particular concern of the world public. This decision may gravely impair any progress at the disarmament talks. The deliberate postponement of the SALT II ratification by the United States has also caused an alarm among the forces of peace. These obstructive tendencies already found their way in the statements of certain Western delegates at the current session.

In an attempt to sharpen the debate and get away at the same time from the discussion of actual disarmament measures, these delegates took up questions that bore no relation to the agenda of the present session. The speech of the Chinese delegate who is taking part for the first time in the work of the committee merely echoed the speeches by Western delegates. As for the Soviet delegate, he made it clear in his address that nothing would take the Soviet Union from its foreign policy line aimed at consistently bringing about the relaxation of tension and disarmament. The Soviet Union favors the continuation of talks started in the past few years with the purpose of ending the arms race. It also favors the launching of talks on other major disarmament issues, the Soviet delegate added. He also recalled President Brezhnev's statement saying that the policy of easing tension has every chance to remain the leading tendency in relations among states.

Further Statements

LD072124 Moscow TASS in English 2107 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Geneva, February 7, TASS--TASS correspondent Georgiy Dragunov reports:

Speaking today in the general debate in the Disarmament Committee, Petur Vutov of Bulgaria stressed the importance of the initiatives on problems of military detente and disarmament which were put forward in Leonid Brezhnev's speech in Berlin on October 6, 1979, as well as concrete disarmament proposals made by the Foreign Ministers' Committee of the Warsaw Treaty Organization in December last year. He said that these proposals met with understanding and support from the world public and all the peace forces. By contrast he mentioned the actions of the USA and other NATO countries. The ratification of the SALT II treaty has been frozen, the military budgets, inflated as they are, are being further increased and the NATO leaders are going to deploy new nuclear missiles in the territories of West European countries. After exposing the demagogic nature of the statement made in the Disarmament Committee by the Chinese representative, P. Vutov stressed that the Beijing leadership is openly trying to undermine detente and to increase tension in the world.

Representatives of a number of nonaligned countries pointed to the danger of intensification of the arms race, especially the nuclear arms race. Indian delegate Gerkhan said that it is necessary to reach as soon as possible agreement on comprehensive and universal termination of nuclear tests. The Indian delegate as well as Nigeria's representative O. Adenji urged the Disarmament Committee to speed up the solution of such important problems as those of nuclear disarmament, prohibition of new types and systems of mass destruction weapons, strengthening the security of non-nuclear states and prohibition of chemical and radiological weapons. Representatives of the USA and some other Western countries are trying to justify NATO's arms race and plans to deploy new American missiles in Western Europe by assertions that these are allegedly "defensive" actions.

COMMENTATOR ORLOV SAYS WASHINGTON 'MANEUVERING' OVER SALT II

LD071458 Moscow in English to North American 0000 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Political news analyst Igor Orlov commentary]

[Text] The White House press secretary, Jody Powell, recently voiced doubts with regard to whether it was reasonable to work on the SALT II treaty. Besides he stated in so many words that he did not think that anyone in his right mind would now propose that we refer the treaty to the Senate for discussion. According to this mildly speaking strange logic of this White House representative, it appears that if the United States Congress discussed limitation of strategic weapons, it would very near border on madness, while a pursuit of the arms race, which is exactly what Washington is engaged in at present, is not madness but a noble cause. At the present stage the idea to use the events in Afghanistan is a pretext for stepping up the arms race and the simultaneous postponement of the SALT II treaty hearings. However the spuriousness of these maneuvers is clear to anyone with even a vague idea of the sequence of events of the last several years. The fact is that implementation of the unprecedented program of militarization was embarked upon by Washington at least 3 years ago. The creation of the quick reaction corps was authorized by the White House back in August 1977. The sharp turn in the foreign policy course of the present United States administration also became evident long before the above events occurred. Already on 17 March 1978 President Carter, speaking at Wake Forest, North Carolina, spoke about an important reassessment by the present administration of the United States' military strategy. At issue in effect was a shift in emphasis in the United States foreign policy from the previously proclaimed course to safeguard national security of the United States through negotiations and development of detente, to a course of threats and intensified tensions. This as is known was [word indistinct] last May by the NATO Council session, at which the United States imposed upon its allies a 10 year program to build up the military might with an annual increase in [word indistinct] military spending by 3 per cent, and a decision to produce and deploy in a number of West European countries new United States' medium range missile nuclear weapons. It was [word indistinct] by the United States' plan for an arms race designed for 5 years which provided for an annual increase of 5 per cent in the United States' military spending. The militarist and hegemonist platform of the present Washington administration, surprising by its candor, brought broad condemnation from sober-minded figures around the world. It was possibly this that makes some of the Washington official representatives maneuver and say now and then that they allegedly wish to see the SALT II treaty ratified. In effect however the treaty has been moved down to a (?bottom) line in the order of priorities and made contingent on the military plans which are now being moved to the forefront. This course cannot be called reasonable. As to the Soviet Union, it has repeatedly reaffirmed that it does not wish to give up any of the good things achieved in the international arena in the seventies. Moreover it deems it necessary to move forward.

PARLIAMENTARY GROUP CONFERENCE TAKES PLACE IN SOFIA

Shitikov Departure for Meeting

LD051328 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1051 GMT 5 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, 5 February, TASS--Aleksey Shitikov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union and chairman of the USSR Parliamentary Group, today flew to Sofia to take part in a conference of leaders of parliamentary groups from socialist countries. At the airport he was seen off by Vitaliy Ruben, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities and deputy chairman of the USSR Parliamentary Group, as well as Dimitur Zhulev, Bulgarian ambassador to the USSR.

Communique; Afghan Solidarity

LD071902 Moscow TASS in English 1848 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

["Communique of Consultative Meeting"--TASS headline]

[Text] Sofia, February 7, TASS--A consultative meeting of representatives of the inter-parliamentary groups of Bulgaria, Hungary, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the GDR, the PDRY, the KDPR, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the USSR and Czechoslovakia ended here today. A delegation of the Laotian People's Democratic Republic took part in observer capacity. The participants in the meeting exchanged views on the results of the 66th Conference of the Interparliamentary Union and the Interparliamentary Symposium on Questions of the Environment in Europe, and discussed other questions.

A communique adopted by the meeting notes that the course of spiraling the arms race, taken by the imperialist and reactionary circles, present a serious danger to the cause of detente, peace and international cooperation.

The delegations pointed to the danger of the NATO decision, adopted under U.S. pressure, on the production and deployment in several West European countries of new types of American nuclear-missile arms.

The importance was stressed of continuing the struggle to achieve a just all-embracing settlement in the Middle East, including the implementation of the lawful rights of the Arab people of Palestine.

The delegations of the parliamentary groups of Bulgaria, Hungary, the SRV, GDR, PDRY, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, the USSR and Czechoslovakia stated their solidarity with the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, highly appreciating the efforts of its leadership, of the Afghan people to defend the national independence and territorial integrity of the country and the gains of the April revolution. They stated the need of preventing any aggressive actions or threats of aggression by American imperialist and Beijing hegemonist forces against Vietnam, Laos, Kampuchea and Iran and ending interference in the internal affairs of these countries.

USSR ENVOY TO GDR VIEWS BERLIN, AFGHANISTAN, DISARMAMENT

DW071306 Cologne WDF Regional Television Network in German 2050 GMT 6 Feb 80 DW

[Correspondent Fritz Pleitgen interview with Petr Abrasimov, USSR ambassador to the GDR and CPSU Central Committee member, in East Berlin; in Russian with superimposed German translation--recorded]

[Text] [Question] A question to the East-West expert Petr Abrasimov: Is a new cold war imminent due to the present development of East-West relations?

[Answer] Yes, unfortunately there are politicians who want to bring Europe to that threshold. The hysterical howling across the Atlantic that is taking place under the pretext of the events in Afghanistan is being continued in a certain way in Western Europe. If one believed President Carter and his political prompter Brzezinski, the Soviet Union is responsible for the present aggravation of the international situation because it has allegedly staged a palace revolt in Afghanistan and then sent in its armed forces as a first step toward the oil-producing areas near the Persian Gulf.

That has been yelled for 1 1/2 months, 24 hours a day by Western and particularly American mass media, not to mention the representatives of the U.S. Government and some allies of the United States. Frankly, these accusations against us would have to be taken most seriously if they were based on facts. But this is where something is wrong. Everything is correct regarding these accusations except the facts, as they say. Assuming that the broad public of the world knew them, these facts would demonstrate irrefutably that Washington's anti-Soviet hysteria is the furious howling of political adventurers who have been caught redhanded.

The sharpness with which this hypocritical campaign is being conducted clearly unmasks its organizers. Their plans for eliminating Afghanistan's independence and for turning it into an imperialist military bridgehead on the southern border of the Soviet Union--the border runs 2,346 kilometers, by the way--have been spoiled due to the timely action of the USSR upon the request of the Afghan Government based on the existing treaty and Article 51 of the UN Charter.

Washington's senseless inventions about the Soviet jump toward the Persian Gulf will naturally be completely unmasked. But one must admit that it has been successful as the White House intended--in shocking Western Europe, including the Federal Republic of Germany. Today Carter is being openly accused in America itself by the press and many politicians as well as significant representatives of the business world of having staged every thing out of personal political interests to intimidate the Americans and thus to achieve his reelection as president.

It is hard to reject these accusations. Naturally it is the business of the Americans themselves whom they will elect president and whom they will throw out. I repeat: This is absolutely their own national affair. But why should the Europeans slavishly collect kindling for the oven in which Mr Carter wants to bake his election cake? Frankly, I fail to understand that.

One can only assume that the White House succeeded in thoroughly deceiving its NATO alliance partners, pretending that its actions are almost an act of charity for saving the whole Western world from the oil plots of Moscow and the future schemings of Misha, the Olympic bear.

But I am an optimist by nature. I believe that the fresh wind of reason and realism in Western Europe will blow away the poisonous transatlantic clouds. More and more serious people in America are finally beginning to understand that the Afghanistan events are by no means a second Pearl Harbor, as Mr Brzezinski pretended. If it is a Pearl Harbor, then it is so only for him personally and for the other organizers of the great provocation on the southern border of the Soviet Union, intended to cover up on the eve of the elections the sad results of their policies in the closing period of Carter's presidency.

[Question] You were deeply involved in negotiating the four-power agreement. The Federal Republic of Germany assumes that this agreement is not susceptible to crises, as has been demonstrated in past years. Do you agree with this assessment--also with a view to the future?

[Answer] Our country has always respected international treaties and agreements. Why else should one sign them? We also view in a similar way the quadripartite agreement of 3 September 1971. It contributed in many ways to the improvement of the situation in Europe and it created prerequisites for turning the Western sectors of Berlin, which have been a source of quarrels and of temporarily significant complications, into a constructive element of peace. Such an approach to the assessment of the agreement will really make it firm with regard to crises. But besides the positive overall effect, there have in practice been many attempts by the Federal Republic of Germany and the West Berlin Senat to interpret the quadripartite agreement more than arbitrarily, to evade it or grossly violate it, attempts that have tested the firmness of the agreement in this respect.

One ought not to forget in Bonn and in the Schoeneberg City Hall that one cannot observe only those points of the agreement that are advantageous to one side. One cannot develop relations between the Federal Republic of Germany and West Berlin without consideration of the core points involving the fact that the Western sectors of Berlin do not belong to and are not subordinated to the Federal Republic of Germany. One cannot violate the most exactly balanced interests of all sides.

[Question] After the Moscow treaty and the four-power agreement, relations between the Federal Republic of Germany and the GDR have also normalized. Now the Schmidt-Honecker meeting has been postponed upon the initiative of the GDR, as NEUES DEUTSCHLAND has reported. Was that done in agreement with Moscow? What do you think of such a meeting?

[Answer] Entirely aside from our sympathies or antipathies, we have always been in favor of a constructive dialog between states with different social systems and of contacts and consultations in a particular period on the basis of sovereign equality and mutual advantage aimed at strengthening confidence between such states. That has been our position for a long time and it is unchanged.

As regards your specific question about a meeting on the highest level between the GDR and the Federal Republic of Germany, in order to obtain enlightenment on this point, you should for obvious reasons approach the chairman of the State Council of the German Democratic Republic rather than me.

[Question] What will happen if the Federal Republic of Germany boycotts the Olympic games in Moscow out of solidarity with Washington?

[Answer] I can assure you that even in such a case no earthquake will take place. Following the appeal of the organizers of that campaign in the name of the false thesis of the necessity of solidarity would not merely show disregard for the interests of the athletes of one's own country, but also for the high ideals of the international Olympic movement. I am convinced that political reason and the will to maintain the cohesion of the Olympic movement will gain the upper hand among the sports functionaries who will have to make that decision.

The Soviet Union will receive the participants and guests of the Olympic games in Moscow with all hospitality and will do everything to make them a real festival for the world's young athletes.

[Question] Despite the present deterioration of the general atmosphere, will the Soviet Union withdraw as announced 20,000 soldiers and 1,000 tanks from the territory of the GDR? Where will these units be withdrawn to--to the Soviet Union, or to some other state?

[Answer] As is generally known, the first contingent of Soviet troops was removed from the GDR on 5 December 1979. The whole world once again could convince itself of the Soviet Union's sincere efforts for detente. The Soviet Union will completely fulfill its promises. The only thing that could hinder the Soviet Union in completing the withdrawal of troops from the GDR would be new actions of the West aimed at complicating the military situation. I can tell you most exactly where these units will be withdrawn to: to some part of the Soviet Union.

[Question] Have Soviet units been moved from the GDR to Afghanistan?

[Answer] They have not been moved.

[Question] As for Afghanistan in general. As was demonstrated in the United Nations, the military action by Moscow has been condemned by a vast majority of the world. Did Moscow underrate that reaction? When will the Soviet troops withdraw from Afghanistan? Prior to the Olympic games in Moscow?

[Answer] I have already spoken about Afghanistan. The limited contingents of Soviet troops there have no purpose other than to help a friendly country, in compliance with the right to individual and collective self-defense, to ward off foreign aggression and to safeguard the security of our own border. As regards the result of votes on the resolution of the so-called Afghanistan problem in the United Nations, we see the matter as follows: At that time people in Western Europe failed to understand all the ramifications of events in Afghanistan. Moreover, political life is sometimes complicated, and not everybody can express his opinion freely. But it is said that time is the best judge. It will also correct that result of the vote.

Let me now deal with the deadline of the Soviet military contingent's withdrawal from Afghanistan. We will decide on that problem, but without the inconsiderate predictions of the current U.S. President.

Our troops will be completely removed as soon as the conditions that prompted the Afghan leadership to make the request cease to exist, in other words as soon as foreign intervention in the affairs of this friendly country stops. The sooner this happens, the better it will be for all of us.

[Question] Let us deal with central Europe. Do the Vienna negotiations on the reduction of arms and troops in central Europe still have a chance?

[Answer] You know that these negotiations were resumed on 31 January. The 20th round has begun. The chances for success, as always, depend on both sides. The Soviet Union was and still is for honest negotiations on the basis of equal rights and equal security. The concrete and constructive suggestions of the socialist countries are all known. Moreover we declared, in an effort to get the Vienna negotiations moving, our readiness to unilaterally reduce the numerical strength of troops and arms in central Europe. We have already begun to move our troops from the GDR to the territory of the Soviet Union. It is now up to the Western side to take the floor. We are waiting for it.

[Question] Suggestions have been made in the East and in the West, for instance by France, to hold an all-European disarmament conference. Is that an opportunity to keep Europe out of the present international crisis and to continue detente policy in this region?

[Answer] Our country fully shares the concern of large and small European countries with regard to the considerable obstacles, which enemies of detente and NATO leadership circles have recently created, to a stable peace in Europe. Under these circumstances the Soviet Union and its allies are fully aware of their responsibility to safeguard their own security. Simultaneously we are decisively opposed to balancing on the brink of war. We want to frustrate intentions of the aggressive militarist forces. We are for military detente. A practical step in this direction could be the suggestion of the Warsaw Pact countries to hold a conference on military detente and disarmament in Europe.

[Question] Will Moscow accept the NATO offer to negotiate on medium-range arms?

[Answer] When the NATO leadership in December last year made a decision on these missiles, it knew very well that it would thus destroy the basis for honest and just negotiations with the USSR and that the entire international situation would deteriorate The Soviet Union has issued several official statements on this. Only a reversal of the NATO decision or a real and effective halt in its implementation would make it possible to start negotiations on medium-range arms.

OLYMPIC BOYCOTT SEEN AS PART OF LONG ANTI-SOVIET CAMPAIGN

LD061650 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1050 GMT 6 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, 6 Feb (TASS)--"The outburst of madness" of which many foreign press organs write in describing the Washington administration's intentions to interfere, if not in the games in Moscow then at least in the participation in them of American athletes, is certainly no sudden attack of anti-Sovietism, notes SOVETSKIY SPORT's observer in today's commentary. One could recall the behind-the-scenes intrigues that took place at the International Olympic Committee's [IOC] Amsterdam session in 1979 at which Moscow for the first time put forward its candidature for the title of Olympic capital, and how the reactionary press intimidated the IOC members with the imaginary danger of "technical weakness in the organization of large tournaments" in the Soviet capital.

Understanding that Moscow had every moral right to invite the games to take place on its soil, having provided the sporting world with a whole galaxy of talent, reactionary circles were trying to at least postpone the coming of the Olympics to the country of socialism. In accordance with the logic of the development of the Olympic movement, in which Soviet Olympic athletes have gained enormous prestige, the games will nevertheless come to Moscow. Therefore the enemies of the Olympic spirit, who are supported by the most reactionary and bellicose circles in the West, have over these years been spinning webs of the most diverse anti-Soviet acts, continues the SOVETSKIY SPORT observer. The same thing happened in 1974, when the IOC announced in Vienna that Moscow would take charge of the Olympics, and in all the subsequent years, while officials in the Soviet capital calmly and purposefully prepared for the world sports festival.

While the prestige of the organizers of the current winter games in Lake Placid and the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles has by no means grown, Moscow has displayed to the world an example of close observance of the spirit, rules and regulations governing the Olympics. The latest events in the international arena show that representatives of the most varied circles--governmental, public and sporting--in Europe and other regions are aware of how dangerous it is to the cause of peace to be influenced by the new diktat of the supporters of the cold war.

SOVIET DELEGATE ADDRESSES UN COMMITTEE ON INDIAN OCEAN

LD071206 Moscow TASS in English 1100 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Excerpts] New York, February 7, TASS--The Special United Nations Committee on the Indian Ocean continues its session here. The General Assembly had instructed the committee to conduct preliminary work for a conference which should draft an international agreement on the conversion of the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace.

Lev Mendelevich, the Soviet representative, set forth the constructive stand of the USSR on making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace. The Soviet delegate expressed the willingness of the USSR actively to help in preparing the conference on the Indian Ocean and drafting an international agreement which would contain clear-cut commitments both by coastal and non-coastal states, including all nuclear powers, with regard to observance of the peaceful status of the region. The Soviet representative singled out the fact that the legitimate interests of all states in the Indian Ocean, linked, above all, with freedom of navigation, would be safeguarded only in conditions of peace and the prevention of a large-scale arms race in that region. He recalled that Soviet-American talks on the Indian Ocean were conducted in 1977-1978, precisely on this basis, but they were broken off by the American side just at the time when an advance towards an understanding seemed possible. The Soviet delegate qualified as nonsense, as ill-intentioned concoctions allegations that the USSR is striving for some expansion towards the Indian Ocean.

The Soviet representative next points out that the "cold war", which entered the Indian Ocean together with the American aircraft carriers, really complicated the setting up of a zone of peace in that region. Those who expect to convert it into their place d'armes, to build up an entire system of new war blocs, supported by war bases of coastal states, to maintain permanently their strategic naval and air forces there, obviously strive not for the setting up of a peace zone but for diametrically opposite purposes. Hence, the Soviet representative said, the crux of the matter is above all to achieve an end to the United States dangerous actions in the Indian Ocean, to ease military tension there, which had been created by those actions. And this calls for active and single-minded efforts of all countries, which really want to make the Indian Ocean a zone of peace. Another road for solving this major problem, the Soviet representative emphasized, simply does not exist.

Proposal for Site Change

LD071814 Moscow TASS in English 1751 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] New York, February 7, TASS--The participants in the session of the UN Special Committee on the Indian Ocean, which is under way here, suggested that the next session be held not in New York, but in one of the capitals of the states located in the Indian Ocean basin. The proposal was made in connection with the recent gross provocation of the United States against a Soviet plane, which was on a regular Moscow-New York flight. As a result of unlawful actions of the American authorities, part of the delegates, who came by the Aeroflot plane to New York, were late for the session.

The committee members were sceptical to the message from the U.S. Government that they received, concerning the delay of the Soviet passenger liner, and regarded it as an attempt to shift the responsibility on the trade unions. As was stated by the chairman of the UN Committee for Liaison With the Host Country, the permanent representative of Cyprus at the United Nations, A. Mavrommatis, the situation that developed prevents the delegates of the UN member-states from discharging the functions laid on them.

Representative of the World Federation of Trade Unions at the United Nations Earnest de May has said: "Nobody can be misled by the discourse of the American leadership that it is allegedly not involved in the sabotage of Aeroflot plane. This is far from being the first case when the U.S. authorities try to reach their aims by acting through venal trade union leaders, loyal to them."

Actions of the trade union leaders, collaborating with the Washington administration, do not reflect the sentiments of the rank-and-file members of American trade unions, he stressed. E. de Mayo expressed confidence that what happened to the Aeroflot plane is a typical example of a dirty political game in the year of the presidential election in the United States.

BRIEFS

UN SEMINAR IN ZAPOROZHYE--A United Nations seminar combined with on-the-job practice for metallurgists opened in Zaporozhye on 6 February. In 5 months engineers from Bolivia, Burma, India, Turkey, Iran, Philippines and other countries of Asia, Africa, Europe and Latin America will study at the Zaporozhye steel plant the experience of Soviet metallurgists and advanced technology in the production of iron, steel and rolled stock. The seminar participants will also visit metallurgical enterprises in Krivoy Rog, Makeyevka and Zhdanov. [Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 6 Feb 80 AU]

SEMENOV SEES U.S., PRC EGGING EACH OTHER ON AGAINST USSR

LD071501 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 31 Jan 80 p 3 LD

[Col I. Semenov article: "Beijing Instigators"]

[Text] Malicious anti-Soviet propaganda is continuing in China. It contains all sorts of fabrications and slander. As recently as 11 January this year Beijing's RENMIN RIBAO carried an article entitled "The Soviet Union's Military Strategy Is Aimed at Achieving World Hegemony." Its author categorically maintains that the USSR's military strategy is based on constantly increasing military superiority over the United States and that the Russians are preparing for a "preventive war" against the Americans. In the very near future the Soviet Union allegedly intends to "take all of Euroasia from the sea" and will then definitely attack the United States. The scenario for World War III, described in RENMIN RIBAO as long ago as 1 September 1979, is approximately as follows: The USSR blocks the Mediterranean, the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Aden, cuts oil supply lines to the United States, Japan and European countries, occupies West Europe within a short space of time, seizes all strategic resources and then...takes America.

The entire substance of the article reveals Beijing's provocative, inflammatory purpose. Having intimidated the United States with the mythical Soviet "military threat," Beijing thereupon advises its American friends not to overestimate the USSR's strength. The United States, it says, has no reason to fear the Soviet Union and should start a war with the USSR right now, "before it has increased its military potential many times over." As for China, in the interests of "joint action" it undertakes the "creation of a threat" in the East, "propaganda support" for U.S. aggression and perhaps the limited involvement of its armed forces in the war. In other words, China agrees to fight the Soviet Union to the last American soldier....

That, it turns out, is the crux of the matter: The Chinese would like to involve the United States in "joint action" against the USSR, but with the intention that the Americans should start the war. Incidentally, people in the West argue differently on this issue. The United States itself seeks to involve China in "joint action" against the USSR, but with the intention that the Chinese should start the war, while the Americans would undertake just to give assistance in the form of weapons and combat hardware.

According to the West German newspaper KOELNER STADT-ANZEIGER, "the United States is impudently playing the China card." The Carter administration is trying to use Beijing's anti-Sovietism and bellicosity and to embroil it with the Soviet Union. "Brzezinski," the New York TIMES has pointed out, "is more interested than any other American official in bringing about a clash between China and the Soviet Union."

But whereas Washington wants the Soviet Union and China to clash, Beijing has long been dreaming of a world conflict in which the world's two strongest powers--the USSR and the United States--would clash, while China itself would remain to one side, "sitting on top of a hill and watching two tigers fighting in the valley."

The United States and China are now trying to expedite the creation of a military alliance on an anti-Soviet basis. Giving the Beijing hegemonists multifaceted support, including support in the military sphere, the American imperialists are seeking to play the "China card" in order to realize their global expansionist aspirations directed against world socialism and the peoples' national liberation movement.

The press of certain developing countries stresses the thought that Beijing itself is helping the United States to play the "China card" by acting in this affair as an aide of the American administration. "China....," the Lebanese newspaper AL-LIWA' declares, for example, "has become a tool for the fulfillment of American plans."

Beijing strategists are undertaking military cooperation with American imperialism, at the same time hoping to play the "American card," to obtain modern military equipment from the United States and to take one more step on the way to achieving their own hegemonist ends. Using anti-Soviet propaganda, the Chinese leaders are trying to divert attention from their shameful compact with the Pentagon and with the militarist forces of imperialism and reaction against the national liberation movement in Iran, Afghanistan and other countries. Beijing speaks loudly of "support for the revolutionary struggle of Third World peoples," while in fact it seeks--in conjunction with the American military--to undermine the Afghan people's revolutionary gains and to overthrow the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and supports the strengthening of the U.S. military presence in the Indian Ocean, including its presence in the Arabian Sea and Persian Gulf region--which creates a threat to Iran's security.

One result of the American-Chinese military rapprochement has been the agreement on joint action in arming Pakistan, whose realization would destabilize the situation in the region. It is not for nothing that the leadership of a country such as India has voiced grave apprehension over this. "Whenever Pakistan has received weapons from the United States in the past," Indian Prime Minister I. Gandhi has declared, "it has used them against our people or its own people in Baluchistan."

Commenting on the results of U.S. Defense Secretary H. Brown's visit to China, the New York TIMES writes that the Beijing leaders, bowing down before their guest from overseas, expressed readiness to increase and accelerate the secret delivery of Chinese weapons to counterrevolutionaries in Afghanistan, as well as to step up the activities of Chinese instructors and advisers in training gangs of Afghan rebels. Chinese Foreign Minister Huang Hua himself even visited Pakistan to fulfill those promises. As is known, the high-ranking guest visited Peshawar where there are bases for the training of armed formations for infiltration into Afghanistan and he saw for himself on the spot that Beijing is following a "parallel course" with the United States in committing acts of aggression against Afghanistan. Government circles in Washington do not hide their satisfaction with the fact that weapons, ammunition and other equipment for the Afghan counterrevolutionaries established in Pakistan are now flooding into Pakistan's Chitral Province along the Karakoram Highway from Xinjiang.

Washington strategists are very pleased with the Beijing figures' bellicosity. They had not even expected Beijing to hitch itself so quickly to Washington's war chaiot for "coordinated action" against the Afghan revolution. People in the Pentagon rubbed their hands with glee when they learned that a group of rebels consisting of up to 250 people, who had been trained in China, was operating in the region of Orgun and that the Chinese are currently particularly active in the region of the northern Afghan provinces of Badakhshan and Baghlan. London's THE DAILY TELEGRAPH even reported that a unit of Chinese troops (approximately 900 men) has crossed the border onto Afghan territory in the region of the Wakhan range.

But Washington figures can hardly console themselves with the fact that "China is becoming an adjunct of their policy." [paragraph continues]

Mao's heirs have their own hegemonist aims. And these are very extensive. Beijing has repeatedly made and is now continuing to make territorial claims against neighboring countries, demanding the inclusion within China of territories which exceed the territory of the PRC itself in area. Implementing its predatory plans, as long ago as 1956 Beijing attempted to appropriate by force 170,000 square km of Burmese territory. In 1959 130,000 square km of Indian territory became the object of Chinese claims. In 1962 Chinese troops invaded India with aggressive aims and seized approximately 36,000 square km of territory, which they are continuing to hold. In 1974 China seized the Paracel Islands, which belong to Vietnam. In 1978 Beijing, using armed "fishing boats," "demonstrated" its "rights" to the Senkaku Islands, which Japan considers its own. For many years now the Chinese leadership has supported gangs of separatists in India, Burma, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines. Last year, with U.S. approval, China committed open aggression against Vietnam and is still continuing armed provocations against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and also Laos.

The Maoists' policy is based on a wild plan elaborated by Mao Zedong. "In a certain number of years," Mao prophesied, "we will certainly have built a great empire and will be ready to land in Japan, the Philippines and San Francisco." He hoped for a third world war, in which the USSR and the United States would exhaust each other. After this, it was said nothing would be able to prevent China establishing world hegemony. The above-mentioned RENMIN RIBAO article essentially calls for the implementation of such a plan of Mao's under present conditions. It was in precisely this direction that Deng Xiaoping was in fact working during his U.S. visit, recommending that the United States "vigorously oppose" the Soviet Union. But when journalists asked him what China would do in that case, Deng replied that "China is poor and needs to strengthen its weak economy." "For Deng," America's CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR wrote at the time, "it is a question of an age-old Chinese game--embroiling one foreign power with another." And even the journal U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT, the mouthpiece of U.S. ruling circles, warned at the time: "The United States would be making a fatal mistake by allowing itself to be dragged into a confrontation--and perhaps even a conflict--with the Soviet Union for the sake of China's interests, and this is precisely what Deng Xiaoping and his colleagues in Beijing have in mind when they speak of 'unity' against Russia."

It is not hard to understand how dangerous to the world's peoples, and not least to the peoples of developing countries, are Beijing's planned alliance with imperialism and U.S. militarism and the Beijing instigators' designs. Under the cloak of "love of peace" they conceal the perfidious aims of Chinese hegemonism: The desire to achieve world supremacy, to embroil certain countries with others, to attempt in conjunction with imperialist states to crush the national liberation struggle, to blackmail countries which uphold their independence and freedom and to dictate their will to them.

However, the peoples of the world vigilantly follow the intrigues of both Washington and Beijing strategists. The Soviet Union is resolutely opposed to the policy of war. "The Soviet people and our friends abroad," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev emphasized in his replies to the PRAVDA correspondent's questions, "can rest assured that the Leninist foreign policy course is unshakable. It is determined by the decisions of CPSU congresses and is embodied in all our foreign policy activities. This course combines consistent love of peace with a firm rebuff to aggression. It has justified itself in past decades, and we will continue following it. No one will knock us from this course."

SOLDATOV ADVISES U.S. NOT TO FORGET LESSONS OF VIETNAM

LD071617 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Feb 80 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Article by IZVESTIYA correspondent V. Soldatov: "A Plot Against Detente"]

[Text] New York--American politicians are currently fond of talking about saying goodbye to the "Vietnam syndrome." Some say it has already been banished and the country has returned to the situation that existed prior to the Vietnam war. "The American you once believed in has returned," presidential contender H. Baker maintains in a television advertisement. In the same broadcast Baker demands the immediate creation of a "first brigade" of American Armed Forces which would be ever ready to go immediately to any part of the world to defend "American interests."

What is the "Vietnam syndrome" and why are U.S. ruling circles in a hurry to get rid of it?

A symdrome is a collection of symptoms characteristic of a particular disease or condition. In this case it is the lessons of the Vietnam war, the ideas which most Americans acquired as a result of the defeat of the half-million strong American Army in Vietnam, the defeat of a punitive army which had threatened the right of the people to shape their own destiny.

The "Vietnam syndrome" implies Americans' condemnation of U.S. armed intervention in other countries and Washington's attempts to play the part of a world gendarme, but that is not all. It also implies demands for a reduction in military expenditure and support for a policy of seeking agreement with the socialist countries.

Relaxation of tension contributed in many respects to a reappraisal of values in the public conscience and in the views of some American politicians. More and more people in the United States began to realize that you cannot play with fire in a nuclear era and that talks are the only way to solve complex problems. Public opinion polls showed that most Americans wanted an end to the arms race and supported Soviet-American businesslike cooperation.

Sentiments in favor of detente, which had the label "syndrome" applied to them, became more and more widespread among Americans, especially young people, and this was not to the liking of U.S. ruling circles. A considerable proportion of these circles demanded the continuation of the arms race so that the United States could acquire an advantage in nuclear and conventional arms which might be used in certain circumstances to achieve political ends. American imperialism's ultimate aim has always been, and still is, political and economic domination of other peoples.

More and more facts are emerging which indicate that Washington has long been organizing an increase in its "military presence" in various parts of the world, including the Near East. "In mid-1977," the New York TIMES writes, "Brzezinski took steps to place a 'security umbrella' over the Persian Gulf area; he was forcefully advocating the creation of 'quick reaction forces'...in August 1977 Carter approved the creation of these forces in principle."

The main task of influential circles expressing the interests of a number of large American corporations, especially those associated with weapons production, was to alter the mood of the American public and create an atmosphere in which it would be possible, without any particular difficulty, to intensify the arms race and implement a policy of intervention. [paragraph continues]

A number of organizations were set up in the country whose chief aim was to condition public opinion and eradicate the "Vietnam syndrome" as quickly as possible. Particularly active were the American Security Council and the Committee on the Present Danger closely associated with the military industrial complex. Over the past 2-3 years these organizations' main task has been to combat the ratification of the Soviet-American SALT II treaty and further build up American military might which, they maintain, can solve all problems.

For a long time the administration sought to create the impression that it would not yield to rightwing pressure. But that was not the case. Many facts indicate that the administration shifted long ago to a more aggressive policy but was unable to go right through with it for a number of reasons. "During the last 3 years the President has reacted very firmly and clearly to the strategic challenge made to us," Z. Brzezinski said in an interview for the WALL STREET JOURNAL. "For 3 years the President has continued to increase military expenditure. He took the initiative in 'modernizing' NATO. He took the decision on setting up [ustanovka] MX missiles and on the creation of the quick reaction forces." Recently the administration has directly alined itself with extreme rightwing elements by announcing its intention to conduct a "new policy distinguished by extreme toughness."

In the elimination of the "Vietnam syndrome" great significance has been and is attached to anti-Soviet propaganda. For many years Washington has diligently backed the psychological warfare specialists' cliche of the Soviet Union as an "aggressor" which is threatening U.S. vital interests. This notion is being drummed into Americans' consciousness and it is reinforced through public speeches, newspaper and magazine articles, television and radio broadcasts, plays and movies.

Anti-Soviet propaganda really blossomed in the latter half of last year. Any pretext was used for conducting it. In connection with the signing of the SALT II treaty it was asserted that "the Russians will deceive the Americans" when it comes to monitoring the fulfillment of the terms of the treaty. Then came the theme of Soviet military personnel in Cuba which, they said, is a grave threat to American security. This was replaced by the lie about "famine" in Kampuchea and about the Soviet Union being to "blame" for the sufferings of its population. It is characteristic that these campaigns often start on the White House's initiative. It was its representatives who started the current campaign about the Soviet "threat" to the Persian Gulf countries.

Artificially created dramatic situations, so-called "crisis," help to manipulate public opinion. The "incident" in the Gulf of Tonkin, engineered by President Johnson's administration, enabled it to create precisely such an atmosphere, to kick up a fuss in the press, get congressional approval and, as a result, significantly widen intervention in Vietnam. Last fall a tense situation was deliberately created in connection with Soviet military personnel in Cuba. One result of this campaign was a sharp intensification of American military preparations in the Caribbean maneuvers at the American base in Guantanamo and the creation of a special military command in the area.

Crises help to distract Americans' attention from acute domestic problems to: inflation, which is in double figures, an imminent economic slump, rising unemployment and the reduction in appropriations for social needs.

The administration is now making a desperate effort to maintain the atmosphere of its latest artificial "crisis" with the help of an unseemly campaign to boycott the summer Olympics. While twisting the arms of the American National Olympic Committee and the athletes, the White House is deliberately overlooking the consequences of these actions in terms of the Olympic movement and the maintenance of normal Soviet-American relations. It appears that election considerations prevail over all others.

The United States, the well-known historian Arthur Schlesinger wrote recently, is having serious difficulties not because Americans have remembered Vietnam too long but because they have forgotten it too quickly. This is a timely reminder.

'INTERNATIONAL CRISES' DIVERSION FROM DOMESTIC FAILURES

LD071527 Moscow TRUD in Russian 5 Feb 80 p 3 LD

[Yu. Babich untitled international review--first three paragraphs reader's letter]

[Text] In spite of the well-known aggravation of the international situation, caused by the policy of the most aggressive circles of imperialism and reaction, the Soviet Union, together with other socialist community countries and with all the peace-loving forces of today, intends to continue to strive to consolidate the process of detente in international relations. "...The will of the peoples," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev said when replying to the PRAVDA correspondent's questions, "has opened a way despite all obstacles to that positive trend in world affairs which can be summed up in the word 'detente'. The roots of such a policy go deep. It is supported by powerful forces and has every chance of remaining the leading tendency in interstate relations."

"The latest presidential election campaign is being conducted in the United States. I would like to know if J. Carter has fulfilled his 1976 promises."

[Signed] A.V. Novikov, master of industrial training at the Leningrad Vocational and Technical School No 90.

During the 3 years in power of the present Washington administration, American voters have had the opportunity to be satisfied that the acutest problems facing the country are not being solved and that J. Carter's 1976 election promises on this score are not being fulfilled.

In the attempt to avoid "troubles," to raise his prestige in the country, to "neutralize" inevitable attacks from other presidential candidates of both leading bourgeois parties, Washington has found no better solution than to use the latest events in Iran and Afghanistan as an excuse and to try to distract Americans' attention from its domestic policy failures and to concentrate this attention on the "international crises" fabricated by the administration itself.

They stop at nothing in the choice of means, including kindling anti-Soviet, chauvinist hysteria, freezing the SALT II treaty, urging on the arms race, curtailing Soviet-American relations in various spheres and even attempts to organize a boycott of the forthcoming Moscow Olympics.

The policy pursued by the present administration rouses protest from Americans themselves. An example reflecting the now quite widespread U.S. mood is the editorial in the latest issue of PROGRESSIVE magazine.

"We are convinced," the magazine writes, "that those who strive to reawaken the spirit of the American empire, to return to the times of the cold war, to a new, unlimited escalation of the arms race, are not taking account of one important factor. We will not remain passive observers, as the initiators of the military crises implement their dangerous plans. Millions of Americans and many millions of people throughout the world realize that it is impossible to achieve 'security' while in perpetual bondage to the creators of bombs and missiles, and that it is impossible to solve our painful problems by sending marines abroad."

This is a very timely warning and one which it would do official Washington no harm to heed!

What Are They Defending?

"Washington's attempts to present itself as the 'defender of Islam' in connection with the events in Iran and Afghanistan cannot fail to arouse indignation...."

[Signed] G. Geldzhayeva, sewing machine operator of the Tashauzskaya sewing factory, Turkmenskaya SSR.

In pretending to the role of such a "defender of Islam," Washington is of course being hypocritical.

In actual fact, who is trying to dress in the toga of a patron of the Muslim religion? Those who support outrages by Israeli soldiery on Muslim priests in Jerusalem? Those who occupy an overtly hostile position in relation to the Iranian and Afghan revolutions?

For, in ranting on about the "defense of Islam" and the nonexistent "Soviet threat" to Muslim states, Washington is primarily looking after its own selfish interests. It is striving to maintain its strategic positions in the Near and Middle East, to keep under its own control the oil deposits of the area's countries, to distract the Arab peoples' attention from the struggle to liquidate the after effects of the Israeli aggression, and to drive a wedge into the ranks of the Arab and Muslim countries, to weaken their opposition to the forces of imperialism and reaction.

"On the false pretext of 'defending Islam,' particularly in Afghanistan," the Lebanese newspaper ASH-SHA'B writes about this, "the United States has unleashed an anti-Soviet campaign unprecedented in scale. It is stepping up its 'military presence' in the Indian Ocean, trying to extend the network of military bases in the Near and Middle East, striving with China to turn Pakistan into an instrument of its policy, and hatching plans to create new military blocs with the participation of reactionary Muslim regimes."

The real nature of U.S. pretensions to the role of self-appointed "defender of Islam" is unambiguously revealed in the joint Soviet-Syrian communique, published on 30 January, on the results of the official friendly visit by A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, to the Syrian Arab Republic. In particular the document says that the sides condemned the continuous campaign by U.S.-led imperialist forces, which demonstrates their false concern for Islam. Imperialism was and remains an enemy of all Muslim countries in general and an enemy of Islam.

REPLACEMENT FOR AMIN IN AFGHANISTAN SOUGHT BY U.S.

LD071450 Moscow TASS in English 1422 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Washington, February 7, TASS--TASS correspondent Yuriy Levchenko reports: Continuing the undeclared war against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, American imperialism is stepping up attempts at intervention into its internal affairs with the object of subverting the April revolution and restoring the pseudo-monarchistic order.

After the failure of the plans for a military coup through CIA placeman Amin, the United States administration urgently searches for his "replacement" from amidst the counter-revolutionaries expelled by the Afghan people beyond the boundaries of their country. Some details of the efforts exerted by official Washington in this direction have leaked out in the American press.

The Washington POST says today that the United States administration is now searching for a new leader "for Afghanistan," blessed by America, which could unite the various rebel groups and lead them in the struggle against the revolution. Amidst candidates for the part of "Judas," the newspaper mentions a number of ringleaders of various gangster groups that are undergoing military training under CIA leadership in Pakistan and are making raids on the republic, and also the former Afghan King Zahir Shah and Hassan Durrani who claims to be the son of King Amanullah Khan, an earlier monarch.

According to the newspaper, the United States administration has already worked out plans for an "Afghan government in exile" and its use for further subversion against the Afghan people.

Unlike official Washington, which does not want to recognize that the fundamental changes made by the revolution in Afghanistan are irreversible, the Washington POST believes that attempts to restore the bourgeois-landlord order there could be futile and dangerous. "There is no reason to believe the Afghans would be any more eager to be ruled by a leader chosen for them by the United States," the newspaper says. The Washington POST also warns that any American attempt "at king-making" for an independent country would be assessed everywhere as direct "great-power intervention," so that "it might be wise for President Carter not to meddle."

LETTER HITTING U.S. 'PANIC' OVER AFGHANISTAN REPORTED

LD051235 Moscow RAVDA in Russian 30 Jan 80 p 5 LD

[TASS report: "Counter to Logic"]

[Text] New York, 29 January--The New York TIMES has published a letter from Emeritus Professor of Philosophy John Sommerville, which says: The Afghan crisis has immediately struck the Achilles' heel of our foreign policy: Panic in high places followed by unrestrained hysteria. It bears a striking similarity to the Vietnam crisis. On 2 August 1964 the Johnson administration distributed a panic-stricken report that our warships in the Gulf of Tonkin "have been attacked." Congress hastily adopted the so-called "Tonkin resolution."

When Congress subsequently familiarized itself with the facts it hastened to repeal its panicky resolution, but by that time the damage had already been done--our longest-ever war, which ended ignominiously for us, had begun.

Do we intend to repeat the same tragedy in Afghanistan? Let us argue calmly and frankly: Whether the USSR has violated international law depends exclusively on whether the Afghan Government asked the Soviet Union to send troops. The USSR says it did ask for troops. The Afghan Government says it did. When our government states that it did not and asserts that the Soviet troops "invaded" Afghanistan, it is blatantly ignoring both the facts and international law. It is succumbing to panic.

When one sovereign state which is a UN member (Afghanistan) indicates that it has a mutual aid treaty with another sovereign state which is a UN member (the USSR) and, in accordance with this treaty, requests aid from its ally in suppressing armed actions directed against itself, that resolves the question of lawfulness. If this were unlawful, our entire international network of military alliances with millions of servicemen in foreign countries would be unlawful and we ourselves would be guilty of "invading" various parts of the world.

CLIFFORD FAILS IN ATTEMPT TO 'PRESSURE' INDIA

LD071543 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Feb 80 p 5 LD

[Oleg Kitsenko "Commentator's Column": "On An Independent Course"]

[Text] The 2-day visit to India by C. Clifford, special representative of the U.S. President, is over. It followed the hurriedly undertaken trips to Delhi by the British and Australian foreign ministers. The talks which the American representative held with the Indian leaders show that these visits were carried out in accordance with a single scenario and pursued the same goal--to bring pressure to bear on India.

Just like the previous visitors, the Indian press notes, Clifford attempted to accomplish the following tasks to undermine the traditionally friendly relations between India and the Soviet Union making use of the so-called "Afghan question;" to convince India that the supplies of American weapons to Pakistan and China are not a danger to India; to persuade Indira Gandhi's government not to oppose the de facto creation of the Washington-Beijing-Islamabad axis.

Just like the other participants in the scenario elaborated in Washington, Clifford did not accomplish a single one of these tasks. The United States has still not realized that the method of pressuring India--one of the initiators of the nonalined movement which plays an important part in international affairs--is unacceptable. I. Gandhi recalled this once again in a speech in Parliament immediately after Clifford's visit. The prime minister confirmed India's adherence to the nonalined movement and stressed that India's judgement on each problem is independent and it is "not influenced by any pressure wheresoever it may come from."

The American representative was shown the futility of attempts to make India fall out with the USSR. Expressing the opinion of the widest public circles, Indian leaders have repeatedly spoken in the past few days of the inviolability of Indian-Soviet friendship. They noted that at difficult moments the Soviet Union had unfailingly come to India's assistance and that in many respects its interests coincide with India's interests, whereas the United States pursues a world strategy which does not take India's interests into account. And events in Afghanistan, I. Gandhi stated, are that country's internal affair.

As for the arming of Pakistan and China, and their joint efforts with the United States to step up military activity, and the attempts to turn Pakistan, as the Indian weekly LINK aptly defined it, into a sort of Israel in this region, Clifford was unambiguously told that this activity is a direct threat to India's security and to peace and stability in Asia.

The Indian public rejects any attempts to pressure its country. It is in favor of an independent foreign policy course and of the development of relations with Pakistan, China and the United States on the basis of a consideration of India's interests.

IZVESTIYA Comments

LD071545 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Feb 80 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Unattributed "Rejoinder" from M. Rostarchuk "The World Today" feature: "Mr Clifford's Smokescreen"]

[Text] Frankly, it is hard to hide something as big as the American-Chinese understanding on military cooperation. This even proved beyond the power of Clark Clifford, the U.S. President's special representative, who was sent to Delhi with the further delicate mission of "covering up" the talks that Z. Brzezinski, the U.S. President's assistant for national security affairs, is holding in Islamabad regarding deliveries of several hundred million dollars-worth of weapons to Pakistan.

As AFP reports from Delhi, a few hours before his departure from Delhi the former U.S. defense secretary told journalists that the United States does not intend to strengthen China's military potential. However, the facts show something else. India's PATRIOT newspaper recently published an article on the plans for Chinese-American military cooperation. These plans openly point out that the United States "has deemed it necessary to increase China's military potential so it can tie down Soviet Armed Forces in Asia, which, in its turn, would be a major strategic advantage to NATO in the West."

Indian newspapers are writing that Clifford's camouflage mission to Delhi has fooled no one: The country's public cannot tolerate the fact that the United States has taken it into its head to lard Pakistan with new modern armaments and surreptitiously fuel China's militarist machine--in other words, to heighten the military potential of two countries neighboring India that have launched military operations against it before.

IMPLEMENTATION OF IRANIAN SANCTIONS MAY BE DELAYED

LD081058 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] A spokesman for the American State Department, Mr Hodding Carter, has said that the United States might refrain from introducing economic sanctions against Iran provided diplomatic efforts to secure the release of the American hostages were continued. The United States froze Iran's assets in American banks and curtailed trade with Iran. It also terminated the sale of spares for the Iranian oil industry. Mr Hodding Carter said nothing about the unprecedented buildup of the American naval presence off Iran's shores. Last month, the United States attempted to get the Security Council to adopt sanctions against Iran but this attempt was foiled by the Soviet Union.

KENNAN, KENNEDY CRITICIZE CARTER FOREIGN POLICY

LD061115 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Feb 80 p 5 LD

[TASS reports: "Lack of Balance"]

[Text] New York, 2 February--The New York TIMES has published an article by former American Ambassador to the USSR G. Kennan entitled "On Washington's Reaction to the Afghan Crisis: Was It Really a Manifestation of Statesmanship?"

G. Kennan stresses that the official American reaction to events in Afghanistan showed an "alarming lack of balance in the analysis of the problem and, consequently, in the retaliatory measures."

The official American interpretation of what happened in Afghanistan, the author of the article writes, clearly failed to take into account such important specific factors as geographical proximity, the ethnic affinity of the peoples on either side of the border and the political instability in a country which borders the Soviet Union. Talk in Washington is dominated by U.S. acquisition of bases and military facilities, the creation of quick reaction forces and the strengthening of military ties with other countries--and all this on the very important southern border of Russia. Anything can happen in such circumstances. Such a hyperbolic view of the Russians' motives is based exclusively on our own premises. I know nothing that would confirm such assumptions. On the contrary, L.I. Brezhnev has publicly and vigorously rejected them.

What, apart from a serious lack of balance, could explain our readiness to forget, when it comes to Pakistan, the unsound position of the current government and its secretiveness regarding its nuclear programs, the author of the article wonders. What else could explain our naive hope that, exclusively as a result of the events in Afghanistan, the Arab states might be prompted to forget their disagreements with Israel and join us in opposing the Russians.

At no time since the end of World War II has there been such far-reaching militarization of thought in our capital, G. Kennan stresses. Preoccupied as we are with the Soviet "military threat," although the reality of it has yet to be proved, will we risk forgetting that the greatest real threats to our security in this region are those that have always existed: the dependence on Arab oil which we ourselves created, and our interference in the utterly unstable Israeli-Arab relations.

We are now in the danger zone, G. Kennan wrote in conclusion. If ever there were a moment to show realism, caution and restraint in the leadership of the American state, this is it. No political election campaign passions can in the slightest way justify ignoring this necessity.

Washington, 2 February--In an interview for CBS Television Senator E. Kennedy condemned President Carter's threats as military interference in the Persian Gulf and said that they only kindle "war hysteria."

"I believe," he said, "that our young men have already had one dose of the poison of war as a result of the failures of American foreign policy--that was in Vietnam--and I would not like to see a whole new generation sent to the Persian Gulf area to give their lives in the defense of pipelines."

The Senator rejected the President's assertion in his State of the Union message that the present crisis in the Near East is the United States' most serious foreign policy program since World War II.

"Of course, this crisis is serious, but I believe that there is an atmosphere of war hysteria in our country at this time and it is being stirred up," E. Kennedy said.

DPRK JOURNALISTS PAY VISIT TO MOSCOW

SK080400 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1130 GMT 7 Feb 80 SK

[Text] A delegation of DPRK journalists led by Comrade (Han Pong-Sin), chief editor of the magazine CHONSON [Korea], is visiting Moscow. The Korean guests are attending the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the founding of SOVETSKIY SOYUZ, a social and political monthy published in 20 languages including the Korean.

JAPAN FOLLOWS U.S. POLICY, TURNS FROM USSR FRIENDSHIP

LD051249 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Jan 80 p 5 LD

[Correspondent Yu. Vdovin reports: "Amending Policy: At a Session of the Japanese Parliament"]

[Text] Tokyo, 28 January--Japan intends to play an increasingly active role in world affairs, but will do so with one eye on the United States. This is indicated by the content of program speeches delivered at a session of parliament by Prime Minister M. Ohira and other Japanese Government leaders.

The session has resumed work after the New Year holidays. It will discuss the draft state budget for 1980 and government policy in the domestic sphere and in the international arena.

Speaking in parliament, Prime Minister Ohira noted that the country has recently come up against a whole set of difficult problems in domestic and foreign policy. In this connection the prime minister indicated the need for changes and amendments in the government's course. In the domestic sphere he called, in particular, for emphasis on structural reforms in the economy and the gradual lessening of dependence on oil as the main energy source.

Having gone on to note the need for more active Japanese participation in world affairs, Ohira indicated, however, that the cornerstone of the government's foreign policy course will continue to be close cooperation with the United States on the basis of the "security treaty."

It appears from the speeches by Ohira and Foreign Minister Okita that Japan's activity in the international arena will take the form of joining in economic sanctions against Iran, increasing aid to Pakistan, which has become a base for aggression and provocations against Afghanistan, supporting and taking part in the U.S.-launched anti-Soviet campaign and building up the combat might of the Japanese armed forces on the pretext of the "threat from the north."

The approach to relations with the Soviet Union also reflects this course. It is no longer being said, as it was a year ago, that the strengthening of friendship with the USSR is one of Japanese diplomacy's main tasks, but a new attempt is being made to link the development of Japanese-Soviet relations with the satisfaction of unlawful territorial claims against the Soviet Union.

AFGHAN STUDENT EXPRESSES GRATITUDE FOR SOVIET AID

NC071626 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 6 Feb 80 NC

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpt] 'Abdollah (Baher Amin Nazari), an Afghan student in Bulgaria, has told the Radio Moscow reporter: Amin did not have faith in the people; he even wanted us students to spy on each other and inform on who goes where, meets whom and says what. Amin did not have confidence in the patriots. He murdered Taraki and many other progressive people and imprisoned about 60,000. Our lew leader Babrak Karmal freed all political prisoners. I thank the Soviet Union from the bottom of my heart since it helped Afghanistan when a possible attack by imperialists and Chinese chauvinists on our country was imminent.

SAVCHENKO HITS WESTERN FABRICATIONS ON SOVIET AFGHAN MOVES

TA072033 Moscow in Dari to Afghanistan 1530 GMT 7 Feb 80 TA

[Igor Savchenko commentary]

[Text] The anti-Soviet vindictive actions ragarding the Afghan events are gradually bringing less and less dividends for its initiators, namely Washington and its allies. Therefore, in order to artificially increase the scope of these actions, the imperialist propagandists are being forced more and more to publish new and newer anti-Soviet accusations. Of course they do not possess facts and none can exist which could level accusations against Soviet policy toward the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and in the Soviet Union's assistance of the Afghan people in the defense of that country's independence.

There is no aggression against Afghanistan, which American and Beijing propaganda usually publicize. Limited Soviet military contingents have been dispatched into Afghanistan according to the request of the legitimate government of that country. All are aware that as soon as foreign encroachments toward that country's independence cease, these forces will be withdrawn.

It is obvious that Afghanistan's officials and population are sincerely welcoming the Soviet Union's military forces, who are present to assist Afghanistan defending that country's independence. These are all indisputable facts which are unpleasant to the imperialist propagandists. They readily publish their accusations instead of facts or artificial filthy reports which they can receive from Peshawar, from the den of the mercenaries who are fighting against the Afghan people. Regarding the mercenaries it should be said that they are individuals who for a long time now have sold their souls to U.S. imperialism and Beijing, and who have become blind due to their hatred of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the Sawr revolution, and are ready to repeat any kind of accusation which is necessary for the Western and Beijing propagandists.

Therefore it is natural that during these days the anti-Soviet accusations are each more hollow, less meaningful and more degrading than the other.

[Words indistinct] sometimes imperialism propaganda and its accomplices raise a clamor about the imaginary gases which are allegedly being used in Afghanistan by Soviet forces and sometimes they even publish unnatural reports about Soviet troops participating in the plundering and fires in Kabul. Their latest accusation is that allegedly Afghanistan's military forces, with the active participation of Soviet officers, have executed en masse the inhabitants of the village of Kerala in Afghanistan. The publicizers of these accusations do not deny that they do not possess any information which could prove their accusations. It is exactly for this reason that in their spurious comments they use such words as "it seems", "it is probable" and "according to unverified information." Had the perpetrators of these accusations been interested in facts, they should have talked about the barbarism of the mercenaries of Washington and Beijing in Afghanistan territory. They should have written some items about the way the mercenaries buried people still alive, people whose only fault was that they were training their compatriots. They should also have written that the mercenaries cut off the hands of people who, according to the mercenaries, had encroached upon privately-owned land, namely people who wanted to obtain a piece of land according to the law of land reform in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

One cannot find such items in the remarks of Western propagandists. Their remarks are full of slanders, which do not have any connection with facts whatsoever, and through the aid of which they only want to exonerate the policy of the United States and a number of NATO countries and Beijing and interfere in Afghanistan's affairs.

At the same time the imperialist and Beijing propagandists who publish the anti-Soviet and anti-Afghan myths rely on the famous principle of the slanders which is "tell a lie and perhaps something of your slander will be remembered." Who knows? Perhaps an ignorant person could be found who does not know that the Soviet Union is a country that constantly and seriously supports the prevention of the use of all kinds of weapons of genocide he could in fact also believe that Soviet forces are prepared to resort to these weapons, which have been prohibited according to international law. Or completely uncivilized persons could be found who do not know that the Soviet Army, during the 62 years of its existence, always carried and continues to carry the noble ideals of peace, friendship, freedom, justice and fraternity of the working people on their banners.

Soviet troops have been inspired with this ideal. They were being annihilated at the fronts of World War II and at the same time they were saving the world from the barbarism of fascism. The Soviet Union and its people, by pursuing these same ideals, and through implementing their internationalist duty, have devotedly assisted the people of Vietnam and the Arab countries to consolidate their defensive potentialities and to defend justice.

These same noble ideals inspired Soviet troops who have come to Afghanistan according to the request of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan for the purpose of rendering noble and untainted assistance to this country for the defense of its independence. No propaganda can distort and defame this noble feature of the Soviet Union, the loyal friend of the Afghan people.

SOVIET AFGHAN ACTION DEFENDED AS REPLY TO U.S.-PRC 'ALLIANCE'

LD071325 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 6 Feb 80 p 3 LD

[Article by SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA international observer G. Dadyants: "Who Is Violating International Law"]

[Text] The malicious anti-Soviet campaign mounted in the West in connection with events in Afghanistan continues. Imperialist propaganda is hollering about "Soviet aggression" against Afghanistan and about "interference in the internal affairs" of that country and is concocting fables about "a large contingent of Soviet forces in Afghanistan directed toward Iranian oilfields" and so forth.

But what is actually happening?

You will recall that a people's democratic revolution occurred in Afghanistan in April 1978. It was a revolution that had flowered on Afghan soil--a fact, incidentally, now acknowledged even by its most rabid ideological opponents. Is it then surprising that the USSR recognized the new people's power and established friendly relations with people's Democratic Afghanistan? The friendly relations were enshrined in the treaty on friendship, good neighborliness and cooperation concluded on 5 December 1978 during N.M. Taraki's visit to Moscow.

However, like many other modern revolutionary processes, the Afghan revolution ran into serious difficulties, both external and internal. When considering events in Afghanistan, how can you fail to take into account feudal reaction's resistance to the democratic transformations? The current defenders of "Afghan independence" [samobytnost] in the West overlook the fact that fanatics were burning settlements, murdering women and old men, gouging out the eyes of local representatives and cutting off the hands of children who dared to go to school.

An internal matter for Afghanistan, Western propaganda says? Yes, it was an internal matter as long as the counterrevolutionaries relied, so to speak, on their own forces. But it ceased to be internal when bands began to be formed in neighboring Pakistan, when they began to be supplied with Chinese and American weapons and to be sent into the country to organize "partisan actions" and rebellions. Nobody can dispute the fact that around 50 strong points have been set up on Pakistani territory, as have about 30 centers for training and rearming rebels.

There is recent information to the effect that Pakistani border tribes are being drawn into the hostilities. (Yusaf Khan), leader of one of these tribes numbering 800,000 people, frankly admitted the other day that some border tribes have long been "fighting against Afghan Government forces."

What did this actually mean? Nothing but the export of counterrevolution, imperialist aggression and undeclared war against revolutionary Afghanistan.

The West fails to mention that imperialist forces and reaction, relying on their agents, had launched preparations for a counterrevolutionary coup in Afghanistan. At first unwarranted reprisals were employed against many leading members of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA), above all members of the "Parcham" grouping. This was followed by violence against President N.M. Taraki and his supporters. Then H. Amin--provocateur and agent of American special services--seized power.

Amin, whom J. Carter tried to depict as the "lawful president of Afghanistan," used savage methods to suppress opposition, destroyed the clergy and contributed to kindling national discord. He asked Western countries for napalm to wipe the recalcitrant Hazara tribe from the face of the earth. The execution of a large group of political prisoners, primarily "Parcham" activists--the death list included more than 2,500 people--was arranged for 29 December.

The very existence of independent and Democratic Afghanistan as well as the fate of the Afghan revolution were in jeopardy.

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan (DRA) Government which served under Taraki asked the Soviet Union for aid, including military aid, to repel foreign aggression. The new Afghan Government led by B. Karmal also requested immediate aid from the USSR. Who would dispute the Afghan Government's legitimate right to ask a neighboring friendly power for aid? Aid was given to Afghanistan in full accordance with the 1978 Soviet-Afghan treaty and also with Article 51 of the UN Charter, which stipulates the right of all states to collective as well as individual defense.

"When a sovereign state that is a UN member (Afghanistan)" Prof D. Sommervil wrote in the New York TIMES, "has a mutual assistance treaty with another sovereign state that is a UN member (the USSR) and asks its ally under that treaty to help it put down armed actions directed against it, this solves the legality question.... Whether the USSR violated international law depends solely on the answer to the question: Did the Afghan Government ask the Soviet Union to send troops? The USSR says that it did. The Afghan Government says that it did. When our administration says that it did not and asserts that Soviet troops 'invaded' Afghanistan it is clearly ignoring both the facts and international law."

Western propaganda makes play of the fact that the entry of the Soviet troop contingent into Afghanistan almost coincided with the liquidation of the bloody Amin dictatorship. It is even asserted that Amin "was shot by the Russians." That is a lie. Amin was condemned and executed by Afghans, by the people's authorities against whom he had dared to raise a hand. The Soviet troop contingent was sent to Afghanistan not to interfere in the country's internal affairs but to help the Afghan Government safeguard the security of Afghanistan's borders. It will be withdrawn from the country as soon as the causes that necessitated this kind of aid to a friendly neighboring state have ceased to exist.

"To sandwich the Soviet Union between Western Europe with Eurostrategic missiles deployed on its territory and a Pakistani-Afghan bloc supported by China would meet imperialism's global strategy," the Paris paper L'HUMANITE writes in connection with the events in Afghanistan.

No, the USSR has never concealed the fact that it will oppose the conversion of Afghanistan into a Chinese military base or a bridgehead for American aggression against the peoples in the region. How could we just sit back while a hotbed of serious danger to the Soviet state's security emerged on our southern border?

Certain circles in the West see disadvantage in relevant discussion about the essence of the events in Afghanistan and what the consequences could have been for the Afghan people and the cause of peace throughout the world. [paragraph continues]

They need an anti-Soviet ballyhoo to distract the peoples' attention from real aggressive actions and real interference in the Near and Middle East peoples' internal affairs currently being perpetrated by the chief enemy of the peoples' national liberation movement--American imperialism, which poses a real, not imaginary, threat to Iran in particular. Surely it is also clear that American military aid to Pakistan, given on the pretext of the events in Afghanistan, threatens India's security. Surely it is clear that the American-Chinese military alliance in the process of being knocked together--again on the pretext of the Afghan events--poses a grave threat to peace and security throughout the world.

The imperialist powers, maddened by the failure of their plans to prevent the Afghan people from building a new life and to convert Afghanistan into a military bridgehead threatening the security of the Soviet Union, are currently elaborating new strategic doctrines envisaging, on the pretext of safeguarding their own "security," their right to interfere in other peoples' internal affairs. But you cannot have different norms and principles of international law existing side by side--some for yourself and others for other people. The U.S. attempts to secure special privileges could bring down the whole international legal system of relations between states.

The Soviet Union resolutely rejects tyranny in the international arena. The Soviet Government's foreign policy course, as L.I. Brezhnev pointed out in his replies to the PRAVDA correspondent's questions, combines "consistent love of peace with a firm rebuff to aggression." This course is fully manifested in the USSR's attitude to events in Afghanistan.

RETURNING AFGHAN MIGRANT INTERVIEWED ON PAKISTAN CAMPS

LD080915 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Feb 80 p 3 LD

[Dispatch for KRASNAYA ZVEZDA from TASS correspondents L. Biryukov and Yu Kornilov: "In the Den of Counterrevolution"]

[Text] Kabul, February--"More and more consignments of arms have recently been arriving in Pakistan from the United States, a considerable proportion of which are immediately sent on to special bases where counterrevolutionary formations intended for infiltration into Afghanistan are being knocked together. Only the other day I saw with my own eyes six artillery pieces and a large consignment of grenade launchers, heavy and light machineguns and other weapons stamped "Made in U.S.A." being delivered to one such base near Peshawar. Bands equipped with these weapons are already active within Afghanistan, especially in Badakshan, Nangrahar and Pakhtia provinces." We were told this by (M. Farid), a former officer in the Afghan Army who emigrated to Pakistan in the fall of 1979 and spent some time in an anti-Afghan center in Peshawar. He voluntarily returned home the other day.

In a meeting with TASS correspondents arranged by the leadership of Afghanistan's security service, (M. Farid) stated that all the activities of the anti-Afghan counterrevolutionary centers entrenched in northern Pakistan are directed and coordinated by the CIA, which is acting in close contact with Beijing's secret services. Recently, (Farid) pointed out, the counterrevolutionary organizations' headquarters in Peshawar, Parachinar and Quetta have had particularly frequent visits from U.S. emissaries. A representative of the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad recently arrived in Peshawar on a secret visit and had a secret meeting with the leader of one of the most active counterrevolutionary groups--(Gulbuddin Ekmatiar) and his henchmen. [paragraph continues]

The U.S. Embassy representative gave (Gulbuddin Ekmatiar) an assurance that, in line with a decision taken in Washington, "your people will get all the weapons and money they need if they step up their operations," and invited the bandit leader to the United States "for consultations." On 8 January two "high-ranking advisers" from the United States "briefed" another bandit grouping based in the city of Parachinar. During this "briefing" it was emphasized that the United States "is willing to give it every support." Evidence of that support came, in particular, in the shape of the recent visit to Pakistan by Z. Brzezinski, adviser to the U.S. President for national security affairs.

(M. Farid) pointed out that the peculiarities of each of Afghanistan's provinces are taken into account in the training of the sabotage and terrorist formations. Thus, those being trained in Peshawar are intended for subversive operations chiefly in Nangrahar Province, raiders from Chitral are infiltrating Badakhshan Province and at bases in Quetta cutthroats are being trained for transfer to Kandahar and Helmand. "The bandits' training program, which is designed to take 3-6 months, includes such "subjects" as, for example, how to use various types of small arms and demolition techniques," (M. Farid) told us. "They are given the task of infiltrating Afghan territory and then of showing no mercy to patriots, shooting teachers and doctors, setting fire to hospitals and schools, blowing up bridges and terrorizing the population. They are warned that if they surrender their families back in Pakistan will be butchered. The bandits' instruction and training are carried out under the close 'supervision' of U.S. and Chinese instructors and advisers."

We asked (Farid) to tell us who runs the counterrevolutionary centers in Pakistan. "Big feudal landlords like (Modzhaddedi)and(Zakriya), whom the April revolution stripped of their vast fortunes and privileges; the wealthy (Makhmud Nabi) and the reactionary and criminal (Gulbuddin Ekmatiar)," (M. Farid) replied. "They are all united in their hatred of the people's system which has been established in Afghanistan.

"The realization of the criminality and utter futility of the sordid activities in which Afghan counterrevolution is engaged in Pakistan and which only exists by the grace of imperialism and reaction prompted me to return home," (M. Farid) said in conclusion. "Afghanistan's external enemies will use any means to try to undermine the people's power. But the truth cannot be hidden, and an increasing number of Afghans who were taken in by hostile and lying propaganda see clearly that that truth is on the side of the April revolution, which now has the support of all our people."

PAKISTANI GOVERNMENT BLOCKS REFUGEES' RETURN TO AFGHANISTAN

LD071728 Moscow TASS in English 1705 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Delhi, February7, TASS--According to reports from Islamabad the Pakistani military authorities are preventing some groups of Afghan refugees in Pakistan from returning home. Recently, a big group of Afghans consisting of five thousand families in a camp near Peshawar tried to return home, to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. But according to information reaching here the Pakistani authorities used military units and under the threat of use of force herded the Afghans back into the camp, told them not to venture out of it and placed numerous armed guards around the camp.

The Pakistani administration, as is known, spreads various concoctions to scare those Afghans who want to return to their native places. Rumours are circulated in the refugee camps that in Afghanistan livestock is taken away from peasants, that peasants are deprived of their belongings and are not allowed to practice Islam. With the knowledge of the Pakistani authorities' absurd inventions are cooked up alleging that Soviet soldiers in Afghanistan carry out punitive operations and suppress the local population. The Pakistani military administration is deliberately circulating such malicious inventions. Conditions are thus created to make the frightened and browbeaten Afghan refugees remain on Pakistani territory. This is being done in order to use the refugees in the terrorist and subversive activities that are being carried out against the lawful government of Afghanistan with the vigorous participation of the United States.

ANTI-INDIAN SLANT SEEN IN U.S.-PAKISTANI TALKS

LD071221 Moscow TASS in English 1149 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Islamabad, February 7, TASS--U.S.-Pakistani talks on political and military matters are going on here. Judging by the materials of the local press, the participants in the talks are discussing the question of revision of the U.S.-Pakistani agreement of 1959 with a view to expanding the sphere of its application and giving an overt anti-Indian directedness to a new military treaty. Thus, the Pakistan TIMES writes that the directedness of the agreement of 1959 only against the Soviet Union is not enough. The newspaper points out that Pakistan virtually encounters an aggression from the south. In other words, a new U.S.-Pakistani treaty should be extended to India as well.

PRAVDA CARRIES ANNIVERSARY MESSAGE TO KOSYGIN FROM INDIA'S GANDHI

LD071633 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Feb 80 p 1 LD

[Text] To his excellency Mr A.N. Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers:

Your Excellency,

It is with great pleasure that I convey to Your Excellency and through you to the government and friendly people of the USSR our cordial congratulations on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of Indian-Soviet economic cooperation, which is being celebrated in India and in the Soviet Union. It is perfectly natural that we should note with great satisfaction in connection with this significant event all that our two countries have managed to achieve through joint efforts in the last 25 years. The foundation of Indian-Soviet cooperation was laid by Jawaharlal Nehru during his visit to the Soviet Union. Having begun on a small scale, Indian-Soviet economic cooperation has developed now to the point where it embraces a wide range of Indian industrial and economic life. Over 70 joint Indian-Soviet projects are striking evidence of the two countries' cooperation, we value particularly highly the Soviet Union's important contribution to India's efforts to create a developed industrial infrastructure. We are deeply convinced that the multilateral cooperation between India and the Soviet Union will continue to develop in accordance with the long-term program of economic, scientific and technical cooperation signed in March 1979, which is in keeping with the nature of the close and cordial friendship which has brought mutual benefit to our two countries' peoples.

[Signed] Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

SRV FOREIGN MINISTER PRAISES SOVIET ASSISTANCE TO VIETNAM

LD071247 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jan 80 p 4 LD

[Article by Nguyen Duy Trinh, member of the Vietnam Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and foreign minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: "Indestructible Alliance"]

[Text] Hanoi--On 30 January 1980 the peoples of Vietnam and the Soviet Union celebrate with great satisfaction the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between our two countries. As an expression of the combat solidarity and cooperation between the peoples of the two fraternal countries with common ideals, Vietnamese-Soviet diplomatic relations have steadily developed and strengthened over the past 30 years. As Comrade Le Duan, general secretary of the Vietnam Communist Party [VCP[Central Committee, has noted, these relations, "tempered in the long revolutionary struggle and based on the firm foundation of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, have withstood all trials and have become forever an object of pride for our peoples."

The Soviet Union--the first socialist country, born as a result of the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution--pointed out to the peoples the path of struggle for independence, freedom, prosperity and happiness. Guided by the party along Lenin's path, the Soviet Union has been transformed in a brief historical period into a mighty socialist power--the reliable bulwark and true bastion of peace and world revolution. Imperialism and other reactionary forces are directing their hostile policy against the USSR precisely because it always acts as the main ally of the oppressed peoples and peace-loving and progressive forces.

The dawn of the October Revolution brought the light of Marxism-Leninism to the Vietnamese revolutionaries. The Soviet Union became for them a source of tremendous inspiration in the search for a way of saving their motherland. Lenin's program on the nationalities and colonial issues adopted at the Second Comintern Congress in 1920 inspired Comrade Ho Chi Minh, who saw in it the only path toward liberation, as he wrote, "for my own unfortunate, tormented compatriots."

Educated and tempered by President Ho Chi Minh, generations of Vietnamese patriots loyal to Marxism-Leninism and closely linked with the great land of Lenin inscribed glorious pages in the history of their motherland and people. Vietnamese working people feel eternal gratitude to President Ho Chi Minh, the first Vietnamese Communist, who brought them the light of Marxism-Leninism and devoted his life to the consolidation of friendship and solidarity between the Vietnamese and Soviet peoples.

Marching along Lenin's path, along the path of the October Revolution, VCP, in its first program adopted in 1930, outlined the correct course for the national liberation revolution, the course of advance to socialism, following Ho Chi Minh's behests. In its struggle the VCP combines patriotism with proletarian internationalism, the strength and talent of the people with the grandeur of the epoch. The close link with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries is a fundamental question in the VCP's political line.

In 1945, taking advantage of the favorable conditions created by the Soviet Union's victory over fascism, the Vietnamese people rose to the victorious implementation of the August revolution, drove out the Japanese fascists and French colonialists, and created the Democratic Republic of Vietnam--the first worker and peasant state in Southeast Asia. The victory of the August revolution was a victory for the Vietnamese people and a joint victory for all peoples in the struggle for freedom, independence and social progress. [paragraph continues]

It is inseparable from the Soviet people's tremendous sacrifices and glorious victories in the Great Patriotic War against fascism.

After the victory of the August revolution the French colonialists again attacked Vietnam in an attempt to stifle the young republic. The Vietnamese people waged a sacred war of resistance against the French colonialists.

The establishment, on 30 January 1950, of diplomatic relations between our country and the Soviet Union, and later with the other socialist states, was a natural development of the close ties existing between Vietnam and the Soviet Union and the world revolutionary movement.

The establishment of Vietnamese-Soviet diplomatic relations became a milestone marking a new stage in our country's life because from that moment Vietnam officially became a member of the community of socialist countries and began to receive with every passing day increasingly effective aid from the fraternal states and to make its own contribution to our common cause.

Vietnam now has diplomatic relations with 105 states of the world and takes part in and is playing an increasingly active role in the nonalined movement and has joined the United Nations and other international organizations.

During the Vietnamese people's war of resistance against the French colonialists the CPSU and Soviet Government and people rendered our country tremendous moral, political and material support full of fraternal sympathy. This support made it possible not only to thwart the plans for blockade and the isolation of the Vietnamese people but also made a contribution to the consolidation of their combat might and led to the historic victory near Dien Bien Phu and to victory at the Geneva Conference in 1954.

The war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation was a special stage in the Vietnamese people's history. In this war, displaying lofty revolutionary heroism, courage and skill, the Vietnamese people won victory in the spring of 1975. They fully liberated the south of the country, united their state, and opened up for themselves an era of unity, independence and socialism.

In this great victory the Soviet Union's tremendous, effective and disinterested support and aid were a decisive factor. The Vietnamese people will always remember the lofty feelings of the soviet people who believe, as L.I. Brezhnev said, that "solidarity with Vietnam is the dictate of our hearts and minds."

Scarcely had the war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation come to a victorious end before the Vietnamese people were again faced with a historic trial. They had to struggle for their motherland's independence and freedom, to build and defend socialism, against the great-power expansionism and hegemonism of China's ruling clique. Betraying socialism, the clique is trying by means of collusion with U.S. imperialism and other reactionary forces to weaken and seize Vietnam. It is opposing the peoples of the Indochinese countries and is undermining peace and stability in Southeast Asia. The Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist countries and all progressive mankind are again standing alongside the Vietnamese people in this struggle. On behalf of the CPSU and the Soviet Government and people, Comrades L.I. Brezhnev and A.N. Kosygin confirmed in a telegram to the Vietnamese leaders that "following the unvarying principles of proletarian internationalism and sincere feelings of fraternal friendship and combat solidarity with the heroic Vietnamese people, we will make every effort for the further all-round consolidation of the relations of firm friendship and effective cooperation between the parties and peoples of our two countries."

The Vietnamese-Soviet friendship and cooperation treaty signed in November 1978, Comrade Le Duan has said, "marks a new stage in the consolidation of combat solidarity and indestructible friendship between Vietnam and the Soviet Union." It serves the interests of the cause of preserving peace, the interests of building socialism and communism in our countries. Loyal to the treaty, the Soviet Union is rendering the most resolute support and tremendous, timely and effective aid to repel the aggression of the Beijing expansionists who have set themselves the strategic goal of taking Vietnam in a pincer movement from the north and southwest.

While the Beijing clique and the forces of imperialism and reaction are opposing the revolution in Kampuchea, Vietnam and Laos, the Soviet Union is rendering the most resolute support to the peoples of the three countries of Indochina in their struggle to defend independence and sovereignty and to build socialism in each of these three countries. Thanks to the close link with the Soviet Union the strength of these three countries' combat solidarity is developing powerfully. It is becoming a factor which has reliably insured the victory of the revolution in each of them, the victory of the cause of peace and socialism on the Indochinese Peninsula and is contributing to the cause of peace and solidarity in Southeast Asia.

In the process of advancing to socialism while bypassing the path of capitalist development, the Vietnamese people view the aid rendered to them and the all-round cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist countries as an essential condition for their successful advance. The Soviet Union has rendered Vietnam the greatest, most basic and effective aid in creating the material and technical base of socialism and strengthening defense. The Soviet Union's assistance in training tens of thousands of scientific and technical workers and its experience are of tremendous long-term significance for developing our country's national economy.

The SRV's entry into CEMA promotes closer and all-round cooperation between Vietnam and the fraternal socialist countries and opens up great new opportunities for creating and strengthening the material and technical base of socialism in Vietnam and reducing the gap in the development level between our country and the other socialist community states.

Revolutionary practice in Vietnam and throughout the world enables our people to become deeply aware that the Soviet Union is the source of the people's might and is their great friend. Loyal to Lenin's behests the Soviet Union tirelessly makes a tremendous cooperation to the cause of peace and security throughout the world and at the same time renders active and effective aid to the peoples' revolutionary struggle, prevents and thwarts the designs of imperialism, colonialism, great-power expansionism, hegemonism and of other reactionary forces aimed at unleashing war and enslaving the peoples.

Socialism and peace are indivisible. The Soviet Union together with the fraternal socialist countries steers a resolute course toward the relaxation of international tension. Millions and millions of people in the world assess highly the Soviet Union's efforts to achieve the Strategic Arms Limitation Agreement (SALT II) and warmly welcome the Soviet peace initiatives for the sake of the relaxation of international tension, the halting of the arms race, and the consolidation of peace and security in Europe and throughout the world.

The time has now come when every person who treasures peace, when every people must see clearly who is the inciter of war and who is undermining the peoples' independence and sovereignty. [paragraph continues]

It is U.S. imperialism and its NATO bloc allies which are activating the deployment of about 600 missiles in West Europe aimed at targets deep in Soviet territory and which are increasing the danger of war in Europe. It was U.S. imperialism and the clique of Chinese expansionists which interfered in the internal affairs of Iran and Afghanistan and tried to use the tense situation they themselves had created, to increase their military presence in this region, seeking to turn it into a bridge-head for threats and struggle against the peoples reluctant to submit to their diktat. It is the collusion between Beijing and Washington aimed against the Kampuchean people's right to independent development and threatening the independence of Vietnam and Laos, which presents a serious danger to the cause of peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

Striving for peace and the peoples' happiness, the Vietnamese people and SRV Government are consistently supporting the Soviet Union's peace-loving foreign policy and resolutely condemn the anti-Soviet campaign of U.S. imperialism, the clique of Beijing expansionists and other reactionary forces. The Soviet Union's position which as L.I. Brezhnev said in his replies to the PRAVDA correspondent's questions, is a combination of consistent love of peace and firm rebuttal of aggression, is an absolutely correct revolutionary position. All mankind welcomes and expresses appreciation to the Soviet Union for its selfless and timely aid to the revolutions of Afghanistan, Kampuchea, Vietnam and other places.

Despite the fact that the Beijing expansionists in collusion with U.S. imperialism will seek to create even greater difficulties for the peoples of the three Indochinese countries, are offering every resistance to independence, sovereignty and the cause of building socialism in Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, and are distorting the friendly relations between these countries and the Soviet Union, the peoples of Indochina, strengthening their solidarity with each other and their close ties with the Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist countries, are offering every resistance to independence, sovereignty and the cause of building socialism in Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, and are distorting the friendly relations between these countries and the Soviet Union, the peoples of Indochina, strengthening their solidarity with each other and their close ties with the Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist countries, will unfailingly win victory, defend their independence and sovereignty and successfully build socialism on their land.

Our people are firmly confident that Vietnamese-Soviet combat solidarity, having withstood the test of time, will be developed even more remarkably in the future.

On the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between our two countries, the Vietnamese people warmly wish the fraternal Soviet people, under the wise leadership of the glorious CPSU and its Central Committee headed by esteemed Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, great new successes in the struggle to implement the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and in advancing to new heights on the path toward communism and wish that they may always bear aloft the all-conquering banner of Marxism-Leninism and make an increasingly large contribution to the peoples' struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and socialism.

MASHEROV DELEGATION VISITS BINH TRI THIEN PROVINCE

LD080925 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Feb 80 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Solidarity and Unity"]

[Text] Hanoi, 1 February--The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation, headed by P.M. Masherov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, member of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and first secretary of the Belorussian CP Central Committee, which is in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (SRV), met today with party, administrative and economic leaders, working people and students in the city of Hue and province of Binh Tri Thien.

At a meeting of the Provincial People's Committee, the immense efforts the population of the province is making in the struggle to liquidate the grim consequences of U.S. aggression and in national economic and cultural development were noted. The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation's head warmly congratulated the Communists and all working people of the province on the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam Communist Party (VCP).

(Buy Shan), secretary of the VCP provincial committee and chairman of the Provincial People's Committee, noted that the party organization and working people of the province will continue to make every effort to further strengthen friendship and solidarity with the Soviet people and to develop comprehensive relations with Belorussia with which the province is twinned. He wished all the Soviet people great successes in socialist competition which has been launched in the USSR to greet the 110th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth.

On the premises of the school attended by Ho Chi Minh, the envoys of the land of the soviets planted a tree of friendship.

On the same day P.M. Masherov gave a reception attended by members of the VCP Central Committee Politburo; Truong Chinh, chairman of the SRV National Assembly Standing Committee; SRV Premier Pham Van Dong and other Vietnamese leaders.

Welcoming the guests, the head of the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation stressed that its meeting with Vietnamese working people had turned into a striking and moving demonstration of the inviolable friendship between our countries and peoples. The sound militant alliance between the CPSU and VCP, whose 50th anniversary is currently being celebrated on a wide scale, is the hub of our friendship, its living soul, said P.M. Masherov. Our inseparable strength--the guarantee of the triumph of our common just cause--lies in this cohesion of will and hearts, in the indissoluble unity and friendship between peoples.

In reply Truong Chinh said that the SRV and the USSR, as militant friends and comrades united by common ideas and goals, are broadening and strengthening mutual relations which were raised to new heights by the friendship and cooperation treaty between the SRV and USSR.

VIETNAMESE COMMISSION PROTESTS CHINESE PROVOCATIONS

LD071403 Moscow TASS in English 1308 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Hanoi, February 7, TASS--Despite the protests of the world progressive public, Beijing continues military provocations against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on an increasing scale, emphasizes a statement by the Vietnamese commission for inquiry into the crimes committed during the aggressive war by Chinese expansionists and hegemonists.

In January this year new fortifications appeared near the border with the SRV and the number of troops increased. Long-range artillery, rockets, tanks and aircraft were additionally moved to key positions and high grounds near the Vietnamese border from Quang Ninh to Lai Chau.

The command posts and centres, which are equipped with up-to-date communication means, and which direct shellings and incursions into Vietnamese territory, operate round the clock. Big military exercises, including aerial bombing practice, are held along the border. All this creates an atmosphere of constant tension on the border.

Along with armed provocations on the border, the Chinese authorities increased espionage-subversive activity, the statement points out. Attempts were made to stir up anti-government riots in the mountain areas of some provinces. Agents are infiltrated deep into Vietnamese territory with an assignment to stage acts of sabotage, spread panicky rumours, and sow hostility between Vietnamese and various small nationalities, and even set up 'counter-revolutionary bases'.

The statement gives concrete facts of daily armed provocations staged by the Chinese military against the SRV in January on land, in the air, and at sea.

Thus, on January 17 Chinese soldiers at a strength of up to two companies attacked from two sides Lung Suoi Hamlet, two kilometres away from the border in Cao Bang Province, and held it for several hours. The Chinese shot three Vietnamese, including one border guard, and injured several people. They burnt down a number of houses and ransacked them.

In January in Cao Bang Province alone, Chinese aircraft intruded into the SRV's air space six times, flying 5-10 kilometres deep into Vietnamese territory. Air space was repeatedly violated in Lang Son, Ha Tuyen, Hoang Lien Son and Quang Ninh provinces. Hundreds of naval ships in the course of the month violated the SRV's territorial waters, terrorising Vietnamese fishermen who engaged in their peaceful work.

The statement is resolutely protesting against the armed provocations and military preparations on the Vietnamese-Chinese border and is demanding an end to them.

LAO PREMIER CRITICIZES BEIJING'S HOSTILE POSITION

ID071412 Moscow TASS in English 1225 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Vientiane, February 7, TASS--Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, prime minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Laos, delivered a report at the second session of the Central Committee of the National Construction Front of Laos. He emphasized that the Laotian people are full of determination to strengthen militant solidarity and friendship with the fraternal Vietnamese and Kampuchean peoples, which serves as an insurmountable obstacle to the realization of aggressive designs which are being nurtured against countries of Indochina by the forces of international reaction and imperialist circles.

The problem of Laotian-Chinese relations remains one of the most important issues, he went on to say. Lately the ruling circles of Beijing hold a hostile-to-Laos stand which contradicts the interests of peace and stability in this part of the world. By their actions they created a threat to the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and security of Laos, and inflicted an irreparable damage to traditional friendly relations between the peoples of the two countries.

The people of Laos, Kaysone Phomvihan stated, will allow no one to encroach upon the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of their country.

KAMPUCHEAN DELEGATION RECEIVED BY ROMANOV IN LENINGRAD

LD071711 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] The delegation of the United Front of National Salvation and the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea, which is in Leningrad, today was received by Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Leningrad Party Obkom. At Smolnyy the guests looked around the Vladimir Ilich Lenin Memorial Museum. They laid flowers at the monument to the leader of the proletariat near the historic building. The members of the delegation visited the cruiser Aurora. At Piskarevskoye Memorial Cemetery, at the monument to the motherland, Heng Samrin and Pen Sovan laid a wreath.

KAMPUCHEAN HEALTH SERVICES BEING RESTORED

LD071826 Moscow TASS in English 1758 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Phnom Penh, February 7, TASS--The public health service which was practically fully destroyed during the rule of the reactionary regime of Pol Pot-Ieng Sary, is now being quickly restored in Kampuchea. Hospitals are being reopened in all provincial centres and other cities and first aid stations established in rural districts. Thousands of Kampucheans are in need of medical attention. Therefore the People's Revolutionary Government considers the restoration of the public health service as one of the most important problems.

This work is hampered by many difficulties. Pol Pot's men destroyed hospital buildings, stores of medicines and medical equipment. Medical personnel was almost fully exterminated by the clique and there is now an acute shortage of doctors and other medical personnel.

The People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea has drawn up an extensive programme for eliminating the consequences of Pol Pot's rule. Scores of short-term courses for preparing medical personnel were opened in the country immediately after the liberation. These courses were finished by hundreds of people, but there is still a shortage of medical personnel, especially in rural districts. Therefore mobile medical teams have been established at all hospitals. They go in cars from village to village, treating sick people and taking preventive measures.

Great assistance is coming from the Soviet Union and other socialist countries which supply the People's Republic of Kampuchea with hospital equipment and medicines.

THAILAND IGNORES U.S. CALL TO CURB TRADE WITH USSR

LD081134 Moscow TASS in English 1127 GMT 8 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Bangkok, February 8, TASS--The United States has failed to secure the support of Thailand for its policy directed at curbing trade with the USSR.

"We are an independent country, and nobody can tell us what we must do," said Prime Minister Kriangsak Chamanan of Thailand.

FURTHER COMMENTARY ON GISCARD-SCHMIDT MEETING

Stand on Afghanistan

LD081113 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Feb 80 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[A. Krivopalov dispatch under the rubric "On International Topics": "After the Paris Meeting"]

[Text] Paris--The 35th Franco-West German summit has ended in Paris. The French and FRG governments were subjected to particularly intense pressure by official Washington on the eve of this meeting. Considerable efforts were also made in U.S. interests by the most loyal lobbyists of the United States in West Europe--the British Tories. Literally a few hours before the start of the French president's meeting with the FRG chancellor, British Foreign Secretary Carrington, who has already proved his worth as an advocate of the White House-devised "antidetente" policy, now hypocritically justified by the "Afghan issue," arrived in Paris. Summing up the results of his conversations with the French foreign minister, which incidentally were held behind closed doors, Carrington confined himself to a pun. The important thing, he said, is not for Washington's partners to "sing in unison" but for them to display "harmony." Translated from diplomatic language into ordinary language, this means that West Europe must nevertheless have just one conductor--an American conductor.

The declaration published in Paris by the 35th Franco-West German summit meeting indicates that Paris and Bonn have "amended" their assessments of the events in Afghanistan so as not to irritate their senior Atlantic partner. It was not for nothing that the declaration was immediately welcomed by the White House and acclaimed beyond the Channel.

The French interpretation of the declaration, however, has several nuances which commentators would not fail to note. Meeting members of the press after the summit, President V. Giscard d'Estaing emphasized that Paris remains committed to the policy of detente and peace, that it wants no aggravation of tension in international relations and that it seeks to pursue an independent policy. The public in France is especially sensitive to its country's independence in foreign policy matters and any steps that could be described by local observers as "the Elysee Palace's bias toward the White House" will most certainly meet with no positive response in the country.

The results of the Paris meeting give much food for thought and for differing conclusions. Thus declaring their commitment to the aims of detente and peace the French and the West German sides agreed on the joint production of a new type of tank, which will then be adopted by the two armies for service.

They are doing everything possible overseas to prod the West European countries into intensifying their militaristic preparations, increasing their arms budgets and stepping up the arms race. At the same time the White House would like to upset the existing relations between Western Europe and the Soviet Union, relations in which many good things have been achieved over the last decade.

While talking hypocritically of the "Soviet menace" to peace, Washington aggravates the international situation and exploits this for asserting its leadership in the system of Atlantic alliances. Those who give in to unceremonious and unprincipled pressure from U.S. aggressive circles not only assist this process but place in jeopardy detente and the peaceful gains of all the peoples of Europe.

Military Cooperation

LD072330 Moscow in French to Europe 1930 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] News agencies report that at their recent meeting in Paris, Valery Giscard d'Estaing and Helmut Schmidt signed an agreement concerning the creation by France and the Federal Republic of Germany of a new tank. By 1990 it is to replace the AMX-30 used by the French Army and the Leoplard used by the FRG. Work is due to begin this very year. Here is a commentary by (Eduard Sanidulin) on the subject.

It is necessary to point out in the first place the harsh nature of the agreement signed in Paris. It means that for an entire decade France and the Federal Republic of Germany will be disbursing considerable sums on the creation of the new tank and other types of war materiels. Would this not be contrary to the declarations by Paris and Bonn on their determination of safeguard and deepen detente through reduction of the military confrontation in Europe, since measures aimed at launching anew the arms race are prejudicial to political detente?

Another thing also needs to be pointed out: It is not by accident that the supporters of Atlanticism in France and revanchist circles in the Federal Republic of Germany enthusiastically hailed the news of reinforcing cooperation between the two countries in armaments. These forces, as we know, have long been advocating a Franco-West German military alliance which (?in the course of time) would possess common nuclear weapons. It is also notorious that these projects have been condemned by wide segments of French opinion as being alien to the vital interests of the country and as an attempt to reintegrate France into the NATO military organization.

The point is to know who will profit from all of this. The Federal Republic of Germany already possesses an army of nearly 300,000 men equipped with sophisticated war materiel. It lacks only one weapon, the nuclear weapon. But, as West German Defense Minister Hans Apel (?has announced), in a few years' time the Army of the Federal Republic of Germany will be one of the most powerful in the world. Does France, which was the victim of German militarism three times in just over a century, intend to contribute to the emergence of such an army on its border?

French CP Criticism

LD071649 Moscow TASS in English 1610 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Paris, February 7, TASS--The Political Bureau of the French Communist Party notes that the content of the joint statement published after the Franco-West German meeting in Paris runs counter to the demands of detente and peace, and also counter to the interests of France. It reflects resolve to strengthen the Atlantic bloc and expand the sphere of its activities under the guidance of the United States. At the same time this statement is evidence of the Federal Republic of Germany's increased role as the guiding force in Western Europe.

The Political Bureau of the French Communist Party stresses that in making their own interpretation of the events in Afghanistan the participants in the Franco-West German meeting are trying to camouflage the responsibility of American imperialism and NATO which long before the events in central Asia had refused to ratify the SALT II treaty, considerably increased their military budgets and adopted the decision to set up new American bases on European territory. They want to gloss over the fact that the events in Afghanistan were caused by the obvious interference of Pakistan and the United States into that country's internal affairs, to conceal that by deliberately creating an atmosphere of tension and fear in the world imperialism is trying to justify the arms race unleashed by it and its rejection of the peaceloving proposals made by the USSR and other socialist countries.

FRENCH CP CENTRAL COMMITTEE BACKS MARCHAIS ON AFGHANISTAN

LD071647 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 24 Jan 80 p 5 LD

[TASS report: "French Communist Party Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] Paris, 23 January--A plenum of the French Communist Party [PCF] Central Committee has finished work in the Paris suburb of Ivry. A report on the international situation, the consequences of the French Government's "austerity" policy and the party's activity was delivered by M. Gremetz, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PCF Central Committee.

The PCF, loyal to the traditions of international solidarity, cannot remain neutral when it is a question of the peoples' struggle. It will never allow freedom of action for imperialist interference and it will not abandon peoples to face the intrigues of the forces of reaction and imperialism, he stressed.

Every people must have the right to be master of their own destiny. That means that both the export of revolution and the import of counterrevolution are rejected at the same time, M. Gremetz noted. On the basis of this class position, the PCF has familiarized itself with the measures adopted by the Afghan Government aimed at the democratization of the country's life and the establishment of peaceful relations with neighboring states. The PCF proceeds on the basis that the democratic process should develop rapidly and permit the Afghan people to insure movement along the path of progress in conditions of sovereignty and peace.

Outlining the present international situation, the speaker noted that imperialism has recently suffered major defeats, particularly in Iran and Nicaragua.

Great significance, M. Gremetz went on to stress, is attached to the socialist states' decisive contribution to maintaining peace.

In the face of the deepening crisis in its system imperialism is no longer capable of acting as it did before, when it could resort to world war and fascism. Nonetheless imperialism has not given up attempts to use every available means to regain its lost positions. The political, economic, military and ideological measures to which the imperialist powers are resorting to this end are causing international tension, the speaker stated. They include the decision to deploy new American medium-range nuclear missiles in a number of West European countries, the postponement of the ratification of the SALT II treaty, increased military budgets and so forth.

The scale of present-day international problems and the new potential which results from the successes of the revolutionary and progressive movement demand the strengthening of international solidarity, M. Gremetz said.

The PCF Central Committee heard a detailed report on the meeting between CPSU and PCF delegations. It approved the activity of the PCF delegation headed by Secretary General G. Marchais and expressed satisfaction with the joint communique which was adopted.

The resolution approved by the plenum indicates that the PCF Central Committee shares the position adopted by the PCF Politburo with respect to events in Afghanistan.

The PCF Central Committee called on all communists resolutely to rebuff the fierce anticommunist campaign recently unleashed in the country and to expand the alliance in the struggle against the authorities' economic and social policy, for disarmament and detente and for international solidarity.

COUVE DE MURVILLE: EUROMISSILES WORSE DANGER THAN AFGHANISTAN

LD071442 Moscow TASS in English 1401 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Paris, February 7, TASS--Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the National Assembly of France M. Couve de Murville expressed the opinion that if there is a risk of conflict now, it is created not by the Afghan events but solely by the fact that the United States decided to deploy medium-range nuclear weapons in Western Europe. For the USSR this presents an aggression directed against it, said M. Couve de Murville.

Addressing members of the association of the French diplomatic press, he supported the official stand of the French Government in connection with the events in Afghanistan, adding that the Soviet Union sent a contingent of troops into Afghanistan "not for its own pleasure".

In the opinion of M. Couve de Murvill, this happened, specifically, also for the reason that a threat to Afghanistan from China has been created.

In another statement, made to the radio station France-Inter, M. Couve de Murville said that no changes have taken place in the USSR's policy. The balance of forces, and specifically, the question of the deployment of nuclear missiles in Europe, remain the basic factors for the Soviet Union. It is also important to the USSR what happens along its borders, M. Couve de Murville said.

DPA: USSR ADMITS TIKHONOV REQUESTED CHRISTIANS MEETING

Ld072020 Hamburg DPA in German 1627 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Moscow--The USSR has confirmed indirectly that the meeting between Politburo member Nikolay Tikhonov and Friedrich Wilhelm Christians, chairman of the Board of Directors of the Deutsche Bank, did not take place at Christians' request. Unlike Thursday's PRAVDA, IZVESTIYA published on the same day a TASS report without the additional remark "at his", meaning Christians', "request."

Soviet television similarly reported on Wednesday evening that Christians was received by Tikhonov at his, Christians', request. A little later Christians assured DPA that the meeting was proposed to him by the Soviet side several days ago. He replied that if his crowded schedule in Moscow allowed he would be willing to meet Tikhonov. He was surprised, Christians said, that Soviet television reported his meeting with Tikhonov. A definite date had been agreed with the Soviet side for the meeting to be reported.

Reports by a British news agency that Christians broke off his visit because of these events were not confirmed on Thursday. A Duetsche Bank spokesman said in Moscow that Christians completed his visit to the Soviet capital as planned.

PATOLICHEV RECEIVES WEST GERMAN BUSINESSMAN

LD071912 Moscow TASS in English 1833 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 7, TASS--Nikolay Patolichev, foreign trade minister of the USSR, today received E. Pipper, president of the board of the West German concern Salzgitter A.G. Questions of development of business cooperation between Soviet trade organizations and the concern were discussed in the course of the talk between them.

BRITISH TORIES ASPIRE TO AGAIN 'RULE THE WAVES'

LD071235 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Feb 80 p 5 LD

[V. Shelkov report under the rubric "International Notes": "The Tories' Maritime Ambitions"]

[Text] Reports that a Royal Navy task force has been sent to the Mediterranean have appeared in the British press. It consists of six ships. These include the large helicopter assault ship Intrepid, which can accommodate tanks, heavy equipment and 700 landing troops. THE DAILY TELEGRAPH suggested that ships flying the British flag should join the American 6th Fleet in the eastern Mediterranean. Possible places for joint Anglo-American naval actions are also named. They include, in particular, the Persian Gulf.

The Conservative newspaper's reasoning is very well founded. Speaking recently in Parliament Prime Minister M. Thatcher stated plainly that her government intends to activate considerably the British military presence in the Persian Gulf region.

Thus British Conservatives are again playing up to the Pentagon, which wants to involve West European states in its intrigues in the Near East and Asia. Many Western capitals have heard Washington's ultimatums to Iran and other sovereign states with apprehension. London, however, is casting caution to the winds to please the transatlantic militarists.

In this connection it is appropriate to note that over the past few months the British press has repeatedly written about the Conservatives' intention to considerably increase Royal Navy strength by modernizing both surface ships and submarines. THE FINANCIAL TIMES reported, for example, that on Defense Ministry instructions a uranium enrichment plant is to be set up in the country by the mid-eighties to supply the 15 British nuclear submarines with home-produced nuclear fuel.

The improvement of old and the creation of new naval arms is one of the main trends of the Conservatives' overall military program, following in the wake of the American administration's aggressive aspirations. However, Britain's democratic public is equally alarmed about another fact: Following Washington's example, London is beginning increasingly actively to use its naval forces to pressure sovereign states. Whitehall is evidently waiting impatiently for the U.S. 6th Fleet and British task force ships to join up. After all, U.S. claims to the role of world gendarme and attempts to dictate its will to other peoples by military force are second nature to British Tories, brought up on "gunboat diplomacy" dogmas.

In sending a task force of ships thousands of miles from their own shores, London is obviously calculating on a "show of strength." The British Conservatives have thus exposed yet again their own maritime ambitions, characteristic of the time when they "ruled the waves," and their desire to establish themselves once more "east of Suez." Britain's actions will harm the security of states in the Mediterranean area and in the Persian Gulf region.

Armament Plans

LD071615 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 February 1980 publishes on page 3 under the headline "Tories' Bellicose Course" a 2,000-word military-political review by Col M. Ponomarev describing the British Government's intention to revive its "presence 'east of Suez'" and noting that Britain's ruling circles "are deviating increasingly from the policy of the relaxation of international tension and steering an increasingly sharp course toward confrontation with the Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Pact countries."

Ponomarev goes on to describe British nuclear armament plans and noted that "extensive preparation for chemical and bacteriological warfare is underway." Finally the review describes the British Government's use of the "myth of the 'Soviet threat'" and states that London is taking "practical steps to support U.S. actions" in the Near and Middle East," concluding that "counting on confrontation with the Soviet Union has yet to benefit anyone. Nor will it bring dividends to the British accomplices of Washington's hegemonist course."

AUSTRIAN GENERAL CALLS FOR MISSILES FOR ARMY

LD071701 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Feb 80 p 5 LD

[I. Melnikov rejoinder: "Be Careful, General!"]

[Text] Vienna--The question of missile armaments was decided with the utmost clarity for Austria back in 1955, on the day the State Treaty was signed. Article 13 of this historic document, which reliably insures the Alpine republic peaceful development, independence and sovereignty, prohibits the provision of missile arms to the Austrian Army.

The Austrian leaders have more than once in recent years stated with complete justification that the country has no unsettled problems or territorial disputes with any state in the world. Nevertheless, from time to time warning flashes of lightning appear on this clear horizon--certain political circles here are trying to put over the idea that the time has come when Austria and its army can no longer live without modern missiles.

Last spring and summer the military experts of both bourgeois opposition parties--the People's Party, and the Liberal Party--vied with each other in preaching this idea. But the rebuff they received from public opinion in the country was so decisive that the opposition leaders were compelled to repudiate the statements by their zealous experts.

Now the old calls have been made in Vienna in a new manner. In an interview with national television, Gen W. Kuntner, superintendent of the Austria Military Academy, said that the country's army must be equipped with missiles. The general simply discounted all the doubts regarding the corresponding article of the State Treaty by saying that the term "missile" should be forgotten and one should talk only of "a more modern tactical weapon."

It is noteworthy that what the general said shocked even the local bourgeois press. "Be careful, general, you are making a mistake!" cried the Vienna KURIER in a commentary. This problem, the paper sums up, is not so much a military as a political one.

Until recently General Kuntner was reputed in Austria political and public circles to be a man who thought about what he said. Memorable in many ways was the constructive stand he took at the Geneva stage of the all-European conference when he was military expert for the Austrian delegation. What has now caused the general to make unconsidered and rash statements? Isn't the example of the NATO strategists, steering a course toward missile "rearmament" [dovooruzheniye], inglorious enough?

KHO'INI'S RESIGNATION REPORTED, CLOSE TIES WITH STUDENTS

LD081220 Moscow TASS in English 1206 GMT 8 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Tehran, February 8, TASS--A meeting of the Islamic Revolutionary Council has been held here, at which President Bani-Sadr of Iran was elected with Ayatollah Khomeyni's consent as chairman of this supreme body of legislative and executive power in the country. It has been decided that the council will perform its functions before creation of Parliament, elections to which have been scheduled to be held in Iran on March 7. The council has also decided to prohibit the students, who captured the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, to use radio and television for publishing the documents uncovered at the embassy and making charges against religious and political figures. According to a report of Tehran Radio, resignation has been accepted of Head of the Council for the Administration of Iran's Radio and Television Hojjat al-Islam Kho'ini, who is maintaining close ties with students keeping American hostages.

92 IRANIAN AIR FORCE GENERALS TO BE TRIED FOR ORGANIZING PLOT

LD071822 Moscow TASS in English 1805 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Tehran, February 7, TASS--92 generals of the Iranian Air Force will stand trial on charges of counterrevolutionary activity. This was announced by Judge Ayatollah Khakhali. He stressed that there exist documents proving the participation of these generals in organising a plot against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

FORMER GENERAL EXECUTED, ACCUSED OF CRIMES AGAINST IRAN

LD080826 Moscow TASS in English 0740 GMT 8 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Tehran, February 8, TASS--Former Commander of the Artillery of the Shah's Guards Brigadier General Jamshid Fathi Mokaddam has been executed in Iran on a sentence of the Islamic Revolutionary Court. According to a report of the Iranian radio, he had been charged with perpetrating crimes against the Iranian people in the years of the shah's rule. According to a report in the newspaper KEYHAN, another four counter-revolutionaries were executed on Thursday.

IRAN'S MO'INFAR COMMENTS ON RELATIONS WITH U.S., USSR

LD071315 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Feb 80 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Correspondent A. Akhmedzyanov dispatch under the rubric "IZVESTIYA Interview": "Blow to U.S. Prestige"]

[Text] Tehran--Having frozen Iran's currency deposits at American banks and by planning economic sanctions and threatening military intervention in Iran, the United States is not so much damaging our country as harming its own prestige in the world, 'Ali Akbar Mo'infar, the Islamic Republic of Iran's oil minister and member of the Revolutionary Council, stated in a conversation with IZVESTIYA correspondent.

The United States has behaved as a country which cannot be relied upon in any way, 'Ali Akbar Mo'infar stated. Henceforth other countries will be afraid to keep their savings in the United States. As for the U.S. anti-Iranian actions, their impact is not all that great. Iran has enlisted the support of other world states. The $5-6 billion frozen in U.S. banks are not our sole resources. Iran also has savings in other countries of the world.

Moreover 3-3.5 million barrels of oil are extracted each day at Iran's oilfields, and two-thirds of this amount is exported. Thus oil revenues continue to come in. These receipts cover 60 percent of all Iran's expenditure. In its turn Iran has taken steps in reply: It has stopped oil deliveries to the United States and its minions: Israel, Egypt and the racist regime of the Republic of South Africa.

With regard to economic relations with Iran's northern neighbor--the Soviet Union--'Ali Akbar Mo'infar stated: "As I see it, there are no grounds not to maintain friendly relations between our countries which are natural markets for each other. The new Iran can buy industrial equipment in the Soviet Union and supply natural gas. Taking the principle of noninterference in each other's affairs as a basis, we can have close trade and economic relations."

[Moscow TASS in English at 2006 GMT on 7 February carries a similar report adding the following: "Interviewed by a correspondent of the newspaper RABOTNICHESKO DELO, 'Ali Akbar Mo'infar stressed: 'We sweep aside the old notion that the economy depends on oil. We hold that oil revenue should be used exclusively for the needs of social development, in the interests of raising the people's living standard'.

[The minister said that Iran intends to freeze oil extraction at the level of 3 or 3.5 million barrels a day. One million barrels of this oil is to be used to meet domestic reauirements."]

IRANIAN COMMISSION OF INQUIRY MEETS, MINATCHI RELEASED

LD072045 Moscow TASS in English 1852 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Tehran, February 7, TASS--The Islamic Revolutionary Council held a meeting here to discuss questions concerning the forthcoming work of an international commission of inquiry into the crimes committed by the former shah against the Iranian people. The proposal for establishing such a commission, which is to include representatives of Iran and other countries, was made by U.N. Secretary General K. Waldheim during his visit to Iran in January this year. This idea was approved by the Islamic Revolutionary Council and Ayatollah Khomeyni.

The Iranian foreign minister said that commission's Iranian organs continue collecting documents concerning the shah's criminal activities, the destruction of tens of thousands of Iranian patriots and the plunder of the country's national wealth. These documents will be submitted to the Panamanian authorities as proof of the former shah's guilt and in support of Iran's claim for the extradition of the former shah so that he may be put on trial in his country.

Iranian Minister of National Guidance Naser Minatchi was released today by the decision of the Islamic Revolutionary Council. He was arrested by the "Guards of the Islamic Revolution" without a sanction from the Iranian authorities. The immediate reason for his arrest was the discovery of documents at the U.S. Embassy confirming, as the students said, that Minatchi was connected with CIA agents and passed information to them.

In his statement to the press Iranian President Bani-Sadr accused the students of acting from the positions of a "government within a government" and denounced their unsanctioned actions. He urged the students to observe discipline and the constitution, the president stressed that the guilt of people should be judged by judicial bodies, otherwise there would be anarchy in the country.

Washington, February 7, TASS--Commenting on Bani-Sadr's statement the Washington POST writes that the Iranian president is preparing for a showdown with the Islamic activists. American officials see Bani-Sadr as the best hope for the solution of the crisis, saying that the president should first strengthen his own power and isolate the students who demand the return of the shah at the price for the release of the hostages.

COMMENTARY STRESSES IMPORTANCE OF AFGHAN-IRANIAN RELATIONS

NC071930 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 7 Feb 80 NC

[Unattributed commentary: "The Expansion of Good-Neighborly Relations is the Order of the Day"]

[Text] Some days ago Afghan Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost referred in a speech to the importance of establishing friendly good-neighborly relations between his country and Iran. Our commentator writes: A range of historic events, as well as today's realities, urge the establishment of such relations. Not only the geographic position of Iran and Afghanistan, but their customs, national traditions and way of life--which are very similar--bind these two countries together. The history of both the Iranian and Afghan people is also similar in many ways. Both long tolerated the yoke of imperialism, were subjected to the oppression and strong obstinacy of feudalists and kings and finally--at approximately the same time--staged an anti-imperialist liberation revolution.

As we know, the Afghan revolution preceded Iran's by about a year, the revolutionary people of Afghanistan always supported the Iranian people in their days of (?struggle) against the monarchical regime and American imperialism. At the critical moments of Iran's revolution, and when the danger of American military intervention had cast its shadow on Iran, the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, together with other peace-loving nations, took steps against foreign intervention in Iran's domestic affairs. At that time the first president of Democratic Afghanistan, Nur Mohammad Taraki, stated: Events in Iran are strictly the Iranians' affair. We positively condemn foreign intervention in any form in the affairs of that country.

The people of Afghanistan welcomed the victory of the revolution in Iran with heartfelt happiness and expressed their fraternal solidarity with it. It is not accidental that the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan immediately recognized the Islamic Republic of Iran. Thus, the genuine conditions for full cooperation between these two neighboring republics were created. After all, these two nations faced and face similar domestic problems--promoting the national culture and improving the welfare of its masses. Confronting the serious danger created by imperialist and reactionary forces toward the revolutionary gains of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan necessitates the solidarity and friendship of these two countries. From the very first days of their existence, both republics have faced attacks by domestic counterrevolutionary elements which--depending on the effective support of the imperialists and, above all, on America's backing--resort to intrigues, terror, sabotage and other destructive acts.

American imperialism--the true enemy of the Islamic Republic of Iran and of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan--is at this very moment flagrantly throwing the threat of arms at the face of these republics. The reason is clear. The revolutions of Iran and Afghanistan have dealt severe blows to the positions and plans of American militarists and monopolies.

The American militarists and monopolies are now using all their force to regain the positions which the heroic nations of Iran and Afghanistan have taken from them and have now come to use the force of arms in order to gain this end. It is clear to all that Washington, while plotting to crush the revolutions of Iran and Afghanistan, is trying--by pursuing the imperialists' favorite slogan, divide and rule--to spread the seeds of discord, suspicion and enmity between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. It is using its secret agents for this purpose and resorting to various plots and deceptions.

The American Government is well aware that the expansion of friendly relations between the two newly-established neighboring republics of Iran and Afghanistan will create a big obstacle to Washington's aggressive objectives concerning these two countries. It should be said that the expansion of such relations between Iran and Afghanistan is in complete conformity with the grand and noble principles and objectives of the two countries' liberation revolutions. The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan--as its leaders point out--is trying to establish and expand friendly, good-neighborly relations between Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran

ISRAEL SEEKS 'DUAL STRIKE' AGAINST SYRIA, PLO

LD072220 Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] A dispatch today from Lebanon. Our correspondent Leonid Rassadin recently made a trip to the central sector of the south Lebanese front. He visited one of the positions of the Lebanese national patriotic forces and the Palestine liberation movement. Now we bring you his report: [read by announcer]

The place I visited showed clearly the positions of rightist Christian seccessionists closely cooperating with the Israeli brass. Through my fieldglasses I could see the trenches and concrete emplacements of the Israeli town of Metulla, from where the aggressor fires at communities in southern Lebanon. Nearby is the snow-covered chain of the Golan Heights; here, Lebanon borders on the Syrian territory overrun by Israel in 1967.

For 2 weeks now artillery duels have become a daily occurrence. They are deliberately provoked by the Israeli side and rightist units and Tel Aviv keeps making bellicose statements. The Israel General Staff seeks to carry out its old plan, the operation "pincer": a dual strike both against Syria and the PLO. The aim of the operation is to use crude force against all those who hamper the implementation of the Camp David Accord. So the positions at Metulla are also a political frontline against Washington, Tel Aviv and Cairo, which are out to whip up tension in the Middle East. Lebanese and Palestinian patriots are determined to defend the Arab nation's just cause.

REPORTAGE ON SYRIAN DELEGATION'S VISIT TO MOSCOW

LD041936 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1855 GMT 4 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, 4 February--A delegation of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party led by Abdallah Al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the party, arrived in Moscow today at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee.

At the airport the delegation was met by Ivan Kapitonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Gennadiy Sizov, chairman of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission; and executives of the CPSU Central Committee apparatus.

Among the welcoming party was Jabir Al-Kafri, Syrian ambassador to the USSR.

Al-Ahmar Remarks

LD071756 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Excerpts] A delegation of the Syrian Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, led by Deputy Secretary General 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, is visiting the Soviet Union at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee. A Moscow Radio correspondent asked 'Abdallah al-Ahmar to talk about his visit and Soviet-Syrian relations. Here is what he said: [begin recording]

Our current visit is not the first and will not be the last. Contacts between our two parties' leaderships and between the leaderships of both countries are continuous and carried out through every means.

In view of developments in the region and the world, we see ourselves interested in reviewing these developments together and in consulting each other. After every meeting we emerge in agreement with regard to our outlooks and appraisals as well as the measures which we specify for confronting all eventualities which are harmful to the cause of our common struggle. Through these meetings we feel that our friendship has become stronger than ever before. This stems from the fact that our common desire is always directed toward adding something new to these relations. Therefore, I can say once again that this visit will neither be the first nor the last. It is a step which we take to continuously develop these relations. We are satisfied with every acheivement we have realized within the framework of these relations.

We would like to reaffirm that during this visit we will realize positive results which will be reflected in the joint communique to be issued at the end of the visit. We will also sign during our visit a new agreement for cooperation between the two parties in 1980-81.

We are confident that aspects of cooperation between the two countries will be broadened in the economic as well as all other spheres, through which our country's stance and the common stance of our force will become stronger in confronting U.S. imperialist and Zionist conspiracies and Israel's aggression. [end recording]

PRAVDA: SITUATION TENSE IN TUNISIA, AMBASSADOR RECALLED

LD081033 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Feb 80 p 5 LD

[TASS report: "Tense Situation"]

[Text] Beirut, 4 February--According to reports from Tunisia the situation in that country is still tense. In certain regions of Tunisia insurgent groups are waging hostilities against government troops. The Tunisian Government earlier recalled its (ambassador) from Libya, accusing it of organizing disturbances. According to information arriving here, the Tunisian leadership approached France with a request for military assistance and a transfer of French paratroops to the Tunisian port of Biserte has begun. The Tunisian-Libyan border is closed. Libya has condemned Tunisia's military preparations.

UK VIOLATES RHODESIA ACCORDS, FAVORS MUZOREWA

LD071101 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 Jan 80 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[A. Nikanorov article: "Doomed Strategy, or How the Colonialists Are Trying To Keep Their Hands On Rhodesia"]

[Text] A tense and explosive situation has formed in Rhodesia. As is well known, the white settlers have already proclaimed this British colony's "independence" on two occasions: unilaterally in November 1965, and with the participation of African collaborationists headed by Muzorewa in April 1979. The expansion of the national liberation struggle headed by the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front was the response to these maneuvers aimed at preserving the rule of the racist white minority regime.

Sensing the inevitability of defeat, the racists began to maneuver, seeking support in the Western countries and above all...from the metropolitan state. Britain forgave the sins of the "prodigal sons" who, indeed, had never felt alone, since London had advocated in words rather than deeds the use of sanctions against "the rebel Salisbury authorities." Nonetheless, this time the racists had to agree to the holding of new elections in Rhodesia--with the participation of the Patriotic Front this time.

Under the London agreements Britain has undertaken, before granting this colony independence, to insure the free expression of the will of all its inhabitants. To this end British Governor Lord Soames has gone to Salisbury. However, the London emissary does not intend to play the part of a dispassionate arbiter. He is trying to interpret the London agreements too freely. The development of events on the banks of the Zambezi shows that the decisions taken on the banks of the Thames are constantly being torpedoed.

The most flagrant violation of the accords reached with the participation of all sides in London is the maintenance of regular troops of the Republic of South Africa on Rhodesian territory. THE FINANCIAL MAIL newspaper, which reflects the views of South Africa's business circles, recently urged Pretoria to undertake military intervention in Rhodesia if the patriotic forces win there. "The advent to power of a Marxist leadership in Rhodesia," the newspaper wrote, "will be a threat to South Africa's vital interests. It is therefore the duty of the South African Government to use all moral and financial resources to insure that Rhodesia does not fall under Marxist influence." The newspaper notes that the question of armed intervention in Rhodesia will be raised openly in Parliament as soon as this threat becomes a reality. Preparation for the invasion has already begun: Pretoria has announced a very large draft into the armed forces.

Another flagrant violation of the London agreements is the use of the illegal regime's repressive apparatus and of Muzorewa's private army to keep "order" in the transitional period. According to news agency reports, the assembly points for Zimbabwe Patriotic Front detachments are constantly being attacked by punitive detachments which include Western mercenaries, with 2,000 Americans among them. A document prepared by the Patriotic Front points out that the Rhodesian authorities, with Soames' direct connivance, are terrorizing local inhabitants, taking their livestock from them, closing schools and turning them into barracks and making mass arrests. The former regime's "security forces" and Muzorewa's "private army" have been occupying liberated regions since the Patriotic Front detachments left them for the assembly points.

Finally, both Soames and Muzorewa are putting every obstacle in the way of the Patriotic Front supporters' election campaign. [paragraph continues]

Everything is being done to prevent the true representatives of the people of Zimbabwe from governing the country. It is not enough that in the future parliament 20 of the 100 seats will be allocated for the next 5 years to white settlers, who comprise no more than 4 percent of the population. Every effort is now being made to insure that collaborationist deputies win the remaining seats.

J. Nkomo, one of the Patriotic Front leaders, has condemned the British authorities' unlawful actions, stressing that, until Rhodesian troops are confined to barracks in accordance with the ceasefire agreement, the situation will remain tense.

Another leader of the patriots, R. Mugabe, whose arrival in the country was long delayed by Lord Soames on various pretexts, has sent a letter to British Prime Minister M. Thatcher categorically protesting against the presence of Republic of South African troops on Rhodesian territory, rightly assessing it as a flagrant act of aggression.

A group of African countries in the United Nations has asked for the Security Council to be convened immediately to discuss the dangerous situation which has formed in Rhodesia as a result of Britain's flagrant violation of the previously reached agreements. For the same reason the OAU has decided to convene ahead of schedule a session of its Council of Ministers in Addis Ababa.

Encountering such sharp opposition to their plans, London and Pretoria undertook their next propaganda trick: They promised to withdraw the South African troops. "I do not know when this will be done--not tomorrow, of course," a representative of the expeditionary crops added with characteristic cynicism. In response to this, OAU Secretary General E. Kodjo stated: "The African countries will demand the convening of an extraordinary UN General Assembly session on Zimbabwe if Britain vetoes their draft resolution in the Security Council."

So, as the data of the parliamentary election approaches, the general strategic line to which London has always adhered in the Rhodesia crisis is emerging. An AFP correspondent recently reported from the British capital: "Reliable sources reported that many Commonwealth members now have serious doubts regarding Britain's impartiality, and some even suspect that a recent accord has been reached between Britain and Pretoria on helping former Prime Minister Bishop Abel Muzorewa to win the February election." The RAND DAILY MAIL also writes of the existence of a secret British Government plan to wreck the Rhodesia agreement. Even before the ceasefire came into force on 28 December last year, the newspaper points out, British Governor Lord Soames decided to "allow Rhodesian troops to close the borders and attack the guerrillas." Reports are now emerging from Salisbury that the British authorities are putting obstacles in the way of the return home before the election of some 300,000 refugees.

The influential TIMES OF ZAMBIA draws attention to the fact that the British authorities are seriously undermining the chances of holding fair elections in Rhodesia. Commenting on the activity of the British governor in Salisbury, it accuses him of conniving with Muzorewa, who during his election campaign is making overtly inflammatory appeals for civil war in the event that his party is defeated in the election. Muzorewa's British backing, the TIMES OF ZAMBIA writes, suggests that the election results will be falsified in his favor by the British authorities.

"Are we dealing with an honest government or not? Can we rely on your government's word? Where is the governor's sense of impartiality, guaranteed to us by Lord Carrington?" These are lines from R. Mugabe's letter to M. Thatcher. The facts now attest that British Foreign Secretary Carrington, who signed the ceasefire on the Tory cabinet's behalf, has adhered constantly to the strategic line elaborated by the Conservatives when they came to power, to wit: keeping Rhodesia in their orbit. [paragraph continues]

By any way, by any means. During the Lancaster House conference blackmail, hypocrisy and double-dealing were used. After it--direct collusion with reaction both inside and outside Rhodesia. "Imposing a neocolonialist solution to the Rhodesian problem and suppressing the national liberation movement in Namibia and the Republic of South Africa are imperialism's aims in southern Africa," a statement by the South African Communist Party Central Committee says.

Missions of businessmen from Britain, the United States, the FRG, Japan and other Western countries have recently been arriving in the Rhodesian capital one after another to "study the new opportunities for trade and investments." REUTER quotes a statement by a representative of West German business circles that "the advent to power of Muzorewa is preferable in the interests of Western business development, since he is a resolute champion of maintaining the economic status quo and close relations with the Republic of South Africa and the West." The British monopolies, which enjoy the full support of the Conservative government, are displaying special activeness. At least 114 members are already forming a pro-Rhodesia lobby in the House of Commons. There is nothing unexpected about that, if you consider their close ties with big capital. In intervals between state concerns, Lord Carrington himself manages the affairs of Barclays Bank Limited, the Bank of Australia and New Zealand, the Rio Tinto Zinc Corporation, Cadbury-Scheweppes Limited, the British Metal Corporation [as published] and other firms active in Rhodesia. The "impartial" Lord Carrington is one of the directors of the National Westminster Bank, which has large investments in Rhodesia, and his brother-in-law Lord Duncan-Sandys holds a key post in the Lonrho monopoly company, which shares domination of the Rhodesian economy with Rio Tinto Zinc.

Imperialism's strategic line of retaining control over the very rich resources of southern Africa fully accords with Pretoria's projects for creating a "constellation" of satellite states under its patronage for which the role is prepared of cordon sanitaire preventing the liquidation of the system of racial oppression. But Pretoria and the Western capitals count in vain on brute force. The world has changed, and Africa has changed. The puppets have no future, just as the imperial strategy to which the present British Government obstinately clings has no future.

ETHIOPIAN LEADERS CRITICIZE UK ACTIONS IN RHODESIA

LD071904 Moscow TASS in English 1700 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, February 7, TASS--TASS correspondent Yuriy Pichugin reports:

The situation in the south of Africa, specifically the crisis in Rhodesia, brought on by the British colonial administration, the tense situation in the Middle East as a result of the Egyptian-Israeli separate deal and other issues are in the focus of attention at the current 34th session of the Ministerial Council of the Organisation of African Unity here. The participants of the all-African forum were addressed by Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and of the Council of Ministers of Ethiopia. The British Government, he said, continues doing everything possible to perpetuate the system of exploitation and oppression in Zimbabwe. If earlier it prevented the leaders of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front from returning to the country, now it is trying to prevent the repatriation of hundreds of thousands of Rhodesian refugees and the release of political prisoners.

The task before independent Africa today is to stand up to the conspiracy of Britain and its henchmen and to thwart it eventually. The session of the Ministerial Council is to discuss and analyse Africa's relations with Britain and to define urgent and concrete steps that can be taken by Africa against the conspiracy of imperialism.

Ethiopian Foreign Minister Felek Gedle-Giorgis, who was elected president of the session, pointed out that the imperialist powers often talk of their "flexible position" with regard to the south of Africa. In fact they want to turn over power in the region to their placemen and thus keep the system of exploitation and oppression there. It is in this context, he said, that one should regard the London talks on Rhodesia, talks which were actually an attempt to legalise a neocolonialist "internal settlement" in Zimbabwe. Independent Africa should recognize that the Lancaster House agreements on Rhodesia only represent a new attempt by imperialism to mislead the people of Zimbabwe, to deprive it of real independence.

E. Kojo, secretary general of the Organization of African Unity, sharply criticized the British Government for its violations of the London agreements on Rhodesia. The world, he said, is witnessing open violations of practically all provisions of this document by Britain. Among such violations is the wide use of the Rhodesian security forces and Muzorewa's so-called "auxiliary forces" at a time when the units of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front are kept at special camps. The presence of South African troops in Rhodesian territory also represents a serious danger.

The current session of the OAU Ministerial Council, he said, is taking place at a crucial moment and should take concrete steps to make Britain honor its commitments.

WESTERN SUPPORT MAKING S. AFRICA CENTER OF TENSION

LD071601 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Jan 80 p 4 LD

[H. Asoyan article: "South Africa--Gamble on Aggression"]

[Excerpt] It is obvious that without the West's support the racists would not have been able to disregard the Africans' legitimate demands for so long, to continue with astonishing effrontery their policy of racial discrimination or to attack independent African countries with impunity. "The West cannot do without us, just as we cannot do without the West," Pretoria declares.

Since NATO includes southern Africa and the sea routes round the Cape of Good Hope in the potential "zone of conflict" between West and East, U.S., British, French and FRG imperialist circles endeavor in every possible way to retain complete control in this part of the world. It is difficult to achieve this without the racists' help. So it comes about that the Western countries effectively incite the Republic of South Africa to active combat operations against independent Africa, making wide use of the tattered myths of "communist infiltration" and the "Soviet military threat."

The duplicity of imperialist policy and propaganda is particularly obvious here. An African country has only to turn to the USSR for assistance in repelling aggressive actions by the racists for the West to immediately kick up a fuss and accuse the socialist countries of "expansionism." However, the deliveries of the latest armaments for the South African Army--which continue despite the UN embargo--occasion no objections.

The Africans' struggle for freedom in Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa itself is called "terrorism" by the West, while South Africa's attacks on independent African states are hushed up by every possible means. It has become traditional for the Western UN representatives to abstain from voting on resolutions condemning South Africa's aggressive policy. Referring to this, South Africa's Natal MERCURY has written that "Western UN vetoes have several times defended South Africa from attacks by the 'Third World.'"

It is no accident that Pretoria's rulers have greeted with delight the White House's recent actions to build up military preparations and political actions in a cold war spirit. Nor can the racists help being gladdened by the report that the United States is creating a so-called "quick-reaction corps" especially designed to support "allied regimes in the struggle against insurgent forces" and to defend the American monopolies' interests abroad. Is there another country in Africa where the American monopolies' positions are so strong as they are in South Africa? More than 500 major U.S. companies, including giants such as General Motors, Ford, General Electric and IBM, are continuing to increase their capital investments in the South African economy, including in the military industry.

With the aid of the racist war machine the West wants to stop the national liberation movement and take control of the independent African countries in the region.

The recent detonation of a nuclear device by South Africa demonstrated clearly that the racists are prepared for extreme measures to preserve their domination. Former South African Information Minister C. Mulder once declared: "In the event of an attack on us, if our existence is at stake, no rules will hold at all. We will use whatever means are at our disposal."

The events of recent months show that the racist military is preparing actively for broad military operations against independent African states if its attempts to prevent progressive forces from coming to power in Namibia and Zimbabwe end in failure.

South Africa's actions are causing growing international public concern. Unless the South African military's perfidious schemes are stopped in time, a major center of tension fraught with grim consequences will emerge in Africa.

LESOTHO, USSR ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

LD080452 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Excerpts] The governments of the Soviet Union and the Kingdom of Lesotho have decided to establish diplomatic relations on the first of this month and to exchange diplomatic missions at ambassadorial level. They proceed from their desire to maintain friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation on the principles of equality, noninterference in each other's internal affairs and respect for one another's independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity. Aleksandr Belkin comments:

Situated inside South Africa, Lesotho has been steadily rejecting Pretoria's pressure and blackmail. It supports a fair settlement of the Rhodesian and Namibian issues in the interests of the African majority and does all it can to give aid to the victims of racist terror. Six thousand African refugees have found shelter in Lesotho.

The establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Lesotho is in line with the general policy of the developing countries aimed at promoting friendship with their natural allies, the socialist states. As an active member of the nonalined movement Lesotho maintains diplomatic relations with many countries in Africa and on other continents, Cuba among them. Its prime minister, Leabua Jonathan, has said Lesotho's foreign policy is clear. The country wants to be able to choose its own friends irrespective of their ideology, political orientation and economic systems. That is how Lesotho understands sovereignty and independence.

AFRICAN STATES UNWILLING TO FOLLOW U.S. INTO COLD WAR

LD071800 Moscow TASS in English 1716 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

["USA: 'Onslaught' on Africa"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, February 7, TASS--TASS commentator Sergey Kulik writes:

American delegations visit African countries one after another. Diplomats, congressmen, generals and even an ex-world boxing champion, who got his guidelines personally from President Jimmy Carter, fly from one African capital to another and make statements in which American imperialism, the main guardian of the racists supporting the most reactionary hateful regimes in Africa and plotting against progressive African states, is shamelessly pictured, as the "best friend" of the developing countries. Washington is evidently anxious to transfer to African soil the sparks of the cold war which it is fanning up everywhere, to increase American military and political presence in Africa and in the Middle East to the accompaniment of its own inventions about the so-called "Soviet menace," and to hold in its sights the oil riches of the region.

The latest proof of this is the current visit paid to Somali, Kenya and a number of right-wing African states by R. Bartholomew, director of the State Department's Bureau for military and political affairs. As is said by the French newspaper LES ECHOS, the Washington administration has arranged his tour in order to try to establish in these countries bases for an intervention in the Persian Gulf area.

In the light of these and other facts testifying to Washington's real aims in Africa, it is becoming clear why Washington's present efforts to brainwash African countries fail to produce the desired results. The independent African states which have gained much from detente do not let themselves be drawn into the cold war. Hence, the restraint shown by Somalia and Kenya when the American visitors suggested that the USA use bases in their territories and the unanimous criticism of Washington's Rhodesian policy by most of African states.

HISTORIAN VIEWS AFRICAN MILITARY REGIMES

LD080955 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 5 February 1980 publishes on page 3, under the headline "Doomed Dictators," a 1,600-word interview conducted by Ye. Shashkov with Doctor of Historical Sciences G.I. Mirskiy, in which the latter states his view on military dictatorships in Africa in the light of the overthrow in 1979 of three such regimes--in Uganda, the Central African Republic and Equitorial Guinea. Mirskiy draws a distinction between military regimes representing capitalist values and supported by imperialist powers and regimes like those in Ethiopia, the Congo, Benin and Madagascar where the ruling military circles are democratic, or like those in Angola and Mozambique where the people's armed forces backed the progressive revolutionary parties against colonialists and to which the appellation "military regime" is actually "inappropriate." Military regimes have come about as reaction to corrupt civilian regimes inherited from the colonialists but the present multiplicity of coups is by no means surprising, Mirskiy says, as the military have proved just as corrupt. They have no inherent talent for affairs of state and the people are becoming more and more aware that the inherited capitalist system is not solving their basic problems. He concludes by saying that it is in the capitalists' interests to keep the status quo but that their days are numbered.

PRAVDA SEES U.S. INTERFERENCE IN EL SALVADOR

LD081013 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Feb 80 p 5 LD

[PRAVDA commentator Mikhail Kalashnikov article under the rubric "commentator's column": "A Rebuff to Reaction"]

[Text] The situation in the Central American Republic of El Salvador continues to grow heated. The Constitution has been suspended in the country and all (?powers) have gone to the military and civilian junta. At the same time people continue to die at the hands of fascist bands. Since the recent strike workers in different sectors of the economy are stopping work and demanding an end to the terror.

Three influential organizations, the Communist Party of El Salvador, the Farabundo Marti Popular Liberation Forces and the armed forces of national resistance have adopted a decision to set up a revolutionary coordinating organization. This organization has appealed to the democratic forces of the country to unite in the struggle against reaction. The appeal is extremely pressing.

The military and civilian junta which has been in power now for 3 months has still not managed to begin implementing the promised extensive democratic reforms. The change in the composition of the junta and cabinet, as a result of which (?a number of posts) were occupied by representatives of the Christian Democratic Party, failed to lead to the elaboration of an operative policy on a number of internal political questions and it undermined even more the trust of the masses in the country's leadership.

The number of victims of repression under the new authorities has already reached several hundred people. An important event in the political life of El Salvador which demonstrates eloquently the gradual rightward slide of the ruling junta was the recent shooting at a mass demonstration of leftist forces in the capital of the country, San Salvador, as a result of which more than 300 people were killed or injured. Besides the police, ultra-rightist paramilitary organizations took part in this action and behind the police, eye-witnesses say, were Americans with walkie-talkies.

Political circles in El Salvador have also learned that the U.S. Embassy organizes and conducts meetings between representatives of different groups of the local oligarchy and reactionaries. Numerous facts show that reactionaries, who are traditionally strong in that country, are openly bringing matters to the point of civil war. They are gambling on a fascist counter-coup and are depending in their plans on the support of the United States.

Washington, worried by the victory of the revolution in Nicaragua, gives no room to doubt that they intend to hinder the process of progressive changes in Central America. The U.S. military presence in Latin America will for a long time yet be a guarantee for insuring Washington's interests, McAuliffe, commander in chief of the U.S. Southern Command, said cynically.

The gross diktat of the United States is provoking a growing rebuff from the peoples of Latin America.

PRAVDA REPORTS KAPITONOV 30 JANUARY PODOLSK SPEECH TO VOTERS

LD071513 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Jan 80 p 2 LD

[TASS report under the rubric "Election Meetings of the Working People": "Unity of Party and People; Voters Meet I.V. Kapitonov"]

[Text] The Soviet people's political activeness is increasing--they are deeply aware of their involvement in everything which is happening in the country, approach all public matters in a prudently exacting manner and persistently struggle to implement the party's plans. This is graphically demonstrated by the progress of the preparations for the elections to union and autonomous republic supreme soviets and to local soviets and by the working people's meetings with candidate deputies.

A meeting between the voters of Podolsk City Electoral Okrug and Ivan Vasilyevich Kapitonov, candidate deputy of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, took place in the city of Podolsk, an industrial center in the Moscow area, on 30 January.

The meeting was opened by L. A. Krasnoshchekova, first secretary of the Podolsk Gorkom.

With great enthusiasm the participants in the meeting elected an honorary presidium comprising the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, headed by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev.

The candidate deputy's agent, N. Ye. Chivikova, polisher at the M.I. Kalinin machine shop, spoke about I.V. Kapitonov's life and career. She called on the voters to vote unanimously for the candidates of the indissoluble bloc of Communists and nonparty members.

There followed speeches by A.I. Chernov, director of the Ordzhonikidze machine-building plant; A.V. Yegerev, a machine plant electrician; Maj Gen N.I. Lutsev, chief of the USSR Ministry of Defense Central Archive; V.F. Timoshchenko, leader of a bricklaying team at the No 1 Moskovskaya Oblast Construction Trust's First Construction and Installation Administration; and E.V. Shvedova, teacher at school No 24. They expressed their warm support for the party's domestic and foreign policy and for its Leninist Central Committee. The speakers spoke about the work done by the collectives of enterprises, about the great political and labor enthusiasm among the city's working people and about the Soviet people's desire to strengthen the might of the motherland--the bulwark of peace throughout the world--through selfless shock labor.

Warmly welcomed by those participating in the meeting, I.V. Kapitonov delivered a speech. He expressed heartfelt thanks to the collectives of enterprises and organizations in the okrug and to all its working people for nominating him candidate deputy of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet. I attribute your trust and support, the speaker went on, wholly and completely to our beloved Communist Party--the political leader of the Soviet people and the inspirer and organizer of all our victories.

The country's preparations for the elections are taking place in an atmosphere of a general political upsurge and labor enthusiasm. They are a convincing demonstration of the nation's approval for the party's domestic and foreign policy and the work of the CPSU Central Committee and the Central Committee Politburo, headed by that tried and tested leader of party and state, that staunch Marxist-Leninist and ardent champion of communism, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev.

Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's name was the first to be put forward as candidate deputy by the working people of all the union republics. They expressed their sincere feelings of affection and respect for Leonid Ilich for his tireless and selfless labor in the name of the people's happiness and of the motherland's prosperity, and their heartfelt gratitude for his enormous contribution to the cause of safeguarding and consolidating peace on earth.

The announcement that Comrade L.I. Brezhnev had sent the city's working people cordial greetings and wished them every success in their work for the benefit of the socialist fatherland and great happiness and prosperity was greeted by those present at the meeting with prolonged tumultuous applause.

It has been more than 4 years since the last union and autonomous republic supreme soviet elections, the speaker went on. That period has been packed with a massive amount of creative work by the party and the people to implement the historic 25th CPSU Congress decisions. The candidate deputy spoke about how the 10th 5-Year Plan's socioeconomic program is being fulfilled in the country. The past years have been marked by our economy's steady growth, the further consolidation of the country's might and defense capability, and by the all-round development of socialism's political system. They have been keynoted by the consolidation of the moral and political unity of Soviet society, by the alliance of the working class, kolhoz peasantry and people's intelligentsia, and by the indissoluble friendship and fraternity among all the Soviet Union's nations and nationalities.

During the last 4 years the country's national income and the volume of industrial and agricultural production have increased considerably. The working people's income is increasing along with the increase in society's material wealth. This is something felt by every Soviet family. Continuous progress in every direction--that is the reality of socialism.

The RSFSR national economy is expanding rapidly and steadily. A major step toward further building up production, scientific, and technical potential and toward improving people's living and working conditions has been taken in the Moscow area and in Podolsk, an important industrial center here. Podolsk enterprises are overfulfilling production plans and 24 percent of all goods produced are now in the top-quality category. The city's labor collectives give rural areas a lot of help in strengthening their industrial substructure and in implementing the party's agrarian policy.

While giving full credit for what has been achieved, I.V. Kapitonov pointed out, the party is focussing attention on the unsolved questions and on what still remains to be done. He dwelt in detail on the tasks arising from the CPSU Central Committee November (1979) Plenum decisions: cited specific examples to the show reserves still to be tapped in industry, transportation, the construction industry and agriculture; and stressed the importance of using fuel and electricity economically. The struggle for efficiency must be waged in every sector and in every workplace.

The candidate deputy paid a great deal of attention to questions relating to improving organization and tightening up discipline. The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Council of Ministers and the AUCCTU have determined specific areas of joint work by party, state and public organizations to tighten up production discipline and to insure that labor resources are used more rationally and effectively. We must endeavor to insure that these important tasks are persistently tackled in every collective.

The CPSU Central Committee steers party and state organs toward insuring that regular checks are made on the fulfillment of plan targets and adopted decisions, and toward stepping up exactingness with respect to workers for work entrusted to them. The people's control organs have an important role to play here. A CPSU Central Committee resolution aimed at strengthening party organizations' leadership of these organs and at more actively involving people's controllers in the common struggle to fulfill plans and to raise the standard of economic work recently was adopted.

Urban and rural workers are prepreparing to greet in a fitting manner the 110th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth. They are expressing their determination to make 1980 a year of shock Leninist work. This is evidenced by the high socialist pledges adopted by the working people of Moscow, Leningrad; the Belorussian, Kazakh, Uzbek, Georgian and Azerbaijan SSRs; Moskovskaya, Kiyevskaya and other oblasts and republics; and by leading collectives. The most important thing now is to do our utmost to insure that the pledges are fulfilled. Party, trade union and Komsomol organizations and economic organs are called upon to still further extend socialist competition and to gear it toward achieving high-quality indicators and high end results. The more support which is given to leading workers and innovators and the more understanding and help which is given to those who have fallen behind, the more effective competition is. Records set in production work are not an end in themselves, but a means of achieving high indicators overall. Anything which is progressive must be actively put into practice and help to increase labor efficiency.

Our party, the speaker stressed, pays constant attention to further developing socialist democracy and to increasingly widely involving the working people in the solution of political economic and social tasks. Following the adoption of the USSR's new Constitution, work in this sphere attained a qualitatively new level and had a profound impact on every sphere of Soviet society's life. The activeness of the soviets, which are a vivid embodiment of genuine people's power and which in fact express the working people's vital interests, is increasing. The fruitful work of CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrade L.I. Brezhnev in his capacity as chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium is of particular significance for improving the work of the soviets at every level.

More than 2.2 million deputies will be elected at the coming elections to union and autonomous republic supreme soviets and to local soviets. The people's deputies are closely linked with labor collectives and the population and are a truly enormous force in the implementation of state power. The present elections are the first to be held on the basis of the new laws on elections to republican and local organs of power, which further developed the Soviet electoral system's democratic principles. The preparations for the elections are a truly nationwide concern in our country. Around 937,000 electoral commissions, employing more than 8.6 million representatives of labor collectives and public organizations, have been created for the purpose of conducting the elections. This is socialist democracy in action.

Implementing the voters' mandate and their suggestions and comemnts is an important element of the soviets' work. They express the working people's concern for their state's affairs and for the public interest. We must insure that the closest attention is paid to the mandate received in the course of the present election campaign.

All the Soviet people's aspirations and thoughts are inseparably linked with the work of the Communist Party. It is honorably performing the role of Soviet society's leading and directing force. Our party now numbers among its ranks more than 17 million of the finest representatives of the working class, the kolkhoz peasantry and the intelligentsia. Around 1.5 million primary and shop party organizations and party groups are operating in the very midst of the people and in the forefront of economic and cultural building. Communists' leading role is graphically demonstrated in labor collectives. By expressing the party's views and by personal example they are rallying and leading people toward the fulfillment of the tasks put forward by the party.

This year is a year of active preparation for the 26th CPSU congress. Party committees are called upon to see to it that the party's influence in every sector of industrial and public life and in every labor collective is deepened and made more effective. The militancy of party links, communists' efficient organization and unity of action and their lofty ideological and moral qualities are the inexhaustible source of our party's might and authority.

Speaking about the approaching momentous date--the 35th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War--I.V. Kapitonov stressed that the magnitude of the exploit of those who displayed unparalleled valor and heroism in defending the motherland's freedom and independence and saving mankind from the threat of fascist enslavement will be preserved forever in the memory of generations. This exploit is for our young people a graphic example of high patriotism and a willingness to come to the defense of the gains of socialism at any moment.

The candidate deputy spoke about the vigorous and fruitful work of our party and the Soviet state and of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev to implement the peace program. The Communist Party will continue to unswervingly pursue a Leninist foreign policy course and to show tireless concern for the creation of international conditions conducive to the Soviet people's creative labor.

In conclusion the speaker said:

"The indissoluble unity of party and people has always been and will always be the guarantee of our successes in the building of communism. It is graphically demonstrated in the electoral bloc of Communists and nonparty members. It is certain that this tried and tested bloc will once again score a complete and absolute victory in the present elections.

I.V. Kapitonov assured the voters that he would do his utmost to justify their trust and would continue to devote all his energies to the Communist Party's cause and to the service of the Soviet people.

I.V. Kapitonov visited a number of enterprises in Podolsk. He spoke with workers and specialists in the shops of the Mikoprovod plant and the Ordzhonikidze machine-building plant. An exchange of views took place with party, soviet and economic leaders. During these meetings and talks, questions relating to the fulfillment of the CPSU Central Committee November (1979) Plenum decisions and to raising production efficiency and work quality were broached. A lot of attention was given to the working people's working and living conditions and to implementing social measures in collectives.

KUZNETSOV ADDRESSES ELEKTROSTAL VOTERS ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

LD041454 Moscow TASS in English 1443 GMT 4 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 4, TASS--"In the present complex conditions, the Soviet Union, firmly adhering to the Leninist foreign policy course, continues waging persistently the struggle for the relaxation of international tensions, for peace and international security", said Vasily Kuznetsov, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first vice-president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet (parliament) of the USSR. He spoke today at a meeting with voters in Elektrostal, a metallurgical centre near Moscow. Vasily Kuznetsov was nominated candidate to the Supreme Soviet (parliament) of the Russian Federation, the biggest union republic of the USSR.

Touching upon foreign policy problems, Vasily Kuznetsov said that "two opposing tendencies are clearly seen in international affairs. On the one hand, following consistently and creatively the course at peace, detente and disarmament by socialist countries made it possible to achieve much in the past decade. The cold war started giving way to cooperation on an equal and mutually advantageous basis, to the joint quests of the ways to lessen the level of military confrontation. The process of national liberation in Asia, Africa and Latin America has strengthened".

"The forces opposing detente intensified their activities at the same time, he said. The premeditated aggravation of the international situation by imperialism, above all U.S. imperialism, is its answer to the strengthening of the positions of socialism, to the development of the working class and liberation movement. In this the trend is set by the leading circles of the USA that took the course at spiralling the arms race, that declared in NATO for the deployment of new types of missile nuclear weapons in the territories of European countries, that are arbitrarily and unilaterally curtailing the programmes of international peaceful cooperation and are striving to impose by force their diktat on freedom-loving peoples."

"All these attacks cannot shake the Soviet Union, the speaker said. The history of our country shows that such hopes are groundless."

[Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1600 GMT on 4 February adds: "The peace-loving foreign policy course, worked out and approved by the 25th CPSU Congress, is being consistently implemented. I believe that the main result of this course of the party is clear to everyone. This is 35 years of peace which have been enjoyed by the Soviet people. Two opposing trends can be distinctly seen in international affairs--on the one hand, our party's consistent and creative course toward peace, detente and disarmament has enabled much to be achieved. Such a course of events does not suit the imperialist and reactionary forces, particularly U.S. imperialism. The stirring up of these forces, which oppose detente, has led to a noticeable complication at the turn of the seventies and eighties in the state of affairs in the world. In these conditions, the Soviet Union continues persistently and consistently to wage a struggle for relaxation of international tension, for peace and international security, and it is perfectly obvious, comrades, that the higher our country's economic might, the stronger its defense capability, the more reliable the guarantee of our peaceful life. The further growth of the economy, the raising of the well-being of the Soviet people are the strengthening of the country's defense capability are inseparately linked with the consistent development of all sections of our society's political system, the manifold development of socialist democracy and the intensification of ideological work."]

MASHEROV ADDRESSES MINSK VOTERS ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

ID071528 Moscow TASS in English 1444 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Minsk, February 7, TASS--"The experience of the past, and present-day realities show convincingly that any attempts to talk to the Soviet Union, to the states of the socialist community in the language of strength and diktat are hopeless and will inevitably ricochet against those who forget the lessons of history and are trying again to sow gale [as received]. The Soviet people, who are being led by the Leninist party, are looking into the future with confidence and optimism, firmly and consistently uphold the cause of peace and security of peoples", said Petr Masherov, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Belorussia. Speaking in Minsk at a meeting with electors today, he denounced the attempts of world imperialism to undermine detente, to change the present balance of forces in the world arena and to throw mankind back to the dark times of the cold war. The fact that the imperialist bourgeoisie is raging and resorts to all kind of ventures cannot frighten the Soviet people, Masherov said. This is a sign of the weakness of imperialism and not of its strength, a reflection of its dissatisfaction with the consolidation of the positions of socialism which is marching triumphantly all over the world.

The ideas of Marxism-Leninism, Petr Masherov said, have won the minds of millions of working people and have become for them a reliable compass in the struggle for the social renovation of life. We members of the delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet who have just returned from Socialist Vietnam, have sensed with all our hearts the inspiring, irresistible advance of the right cause started by the Great October Revolution. We admired the remarkable victories won by the Vietnamese people in revolutionary and national liberation struggle, and their successes in carrying out socialist transformations, in strengthening the defence capability of their country, in defending the independence and freedom of Vietnam against encroachements from outside.

The working people of the SRV, Petr Masherov stressed, are giving a strong rebuff to the Beijing expansionists who are trying to hold back the process of socialist construction, to prevent Vietnam from implementing its internationalist policy.

BELORUSSIAN COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OFFICIALS REPLACED

Affairs Administration Replacement

ID041627 Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA in Russian 22 Jan 80 p 3 LD

[Unattributed report: "At the Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers"]

[Text] By its resolution of 21 January 1980 the Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers has appointed Comrade Lev Georgiyevich Maksimov Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers administrator of affairs, releasing Comrade Fedor Ivanovich Sambuk from these duties in connection with his retirement.

Education Replacement

ID071045 Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA in Russian 23 Jan 80 p 3 LD

[Text] Belorussian SSR Supreme Soviet decree on the chairman of the Belorussian SSR State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education.

The Belorussian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decrees:

1. That Comrade Lev Georgiyevich Maksimov be relieved of his duties as chairman of the Belorussian SSR State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education in connection with his transfer to other work.

2. That Comrade Vladimir Lukich Verkhovets be appointed chairman of the Belorussian SSR State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education.

[Signed] I. Polyakov, chairman of the Belorussian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium;

Ye. Chagina, secretary of the Belorussion SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Minsk, 21 January 1980.

KAZKHSTAN PAPER REPORTS REPLACEMENT OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

ID071041 Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 17 Jan 80 p 4 LD

[KAZTAG report "Chronicle"]

[Text] The Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers has appointed Comrade Oraz Makayevich Beysenov Kazakh SSR first deputy minister of construction of heavy industry enterprises and has relieved Comrade L.I. Andreyev of these duties in connection with his transfer to other work.

The Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers has appointed Comrade Leonid Ivanovich Andreyev Kazakh SSR deputy minister of construction of heavy industry enterprises and has relieved Comrade O.M. Beysenov of these duties in connection with his transfer to other work.

The Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers has appointed Comrade Kamal Seytzhanovich Smailov deputy chairman of the Kazakh SSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting, and has relieved him of his duties as chief of the Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers Administration of Affairs Culture Section.

The Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers has relieved Comrade A.N. Shmanov of his duties as deputy chairman of the Kazakh SSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting in connection with his transfer to other work.

KAZAKHSTAN SUPREME COURT HOLDS PLENUM

ID071329 Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 13 Jan 80 p 3 LD

[KAZTAG report: "Kazakh SSR Supreme Court Plenum"]

[Text] A plenum of the Kazakh SSR Supreme Court has taken place. It heard a report by A.D. Platunov, member of the Kazakh SSR Supreme Court, "On Progress in the Implementation by the Republic's Courts of the USSR Supreme Court Plenum's 19 October 1971 Resolution 'On the Practice of Courts' Selection of the Particular Types of Correctional Labor Institutions for Persons Sentenced to Deprivation of Liberty' and the Kazakh SSR Supreme Court Plenum's Resolutions on This Question."

The plenum noted that the republic's courts, on the whole, select the types of correctional labor institutions for convicts correctly and in accordance with the requirements of the law. At the same time, without giving the reasons for their decisions, courts frequently assign convicts to a type of colony having a regime stricter or less strict than envisaged by the general rules established by the law.

The plenum pointed out that the correct choice of the type of correctional labor institution is of great significance in the reeducation and correction of persons sentenced to deprivation of liberty.

The plenum demanded that the republic's courts, in selecting the type of correctional labor institution for persons sentenced to deprivation of liberty, should be strictly guided by the USSR Supreme Court plenum resolution, by the changes introduced by the plenum's resolution and also by the Kazakh SSR Supreme Court plenum's resolution.

The plenum ordered oblast courts and the Alma-Ata City Court to intensify supervision of courts' practice on this question, expose mistakes and violations of the law, and take steps to eliminate them.

The plenum took place under the chairmanship of K. Ye. Mynbayev, chairman of the Kazakh SSR Supreme Court.

Participating in the plenum's work were: U.S. Seitov, the republic's procurator, V. A. Zinchenko, Kazakh SSR first deputy minister of justice; and other executives of the Kazakh SSR Procuracy, Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Internal Affairs.

ISLAMIC MONUMENTS IN KAZAKHSTAN BEING RESTORED

LD060958 Moscow TASS in English 0750 GMT 6 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Alma-Ata, February 6, TASS--The Government of Kazakhstan has doubled budget spending in the current five-year period (1976-1980) for the protection and restoration of the monuments of Islamic culture located on the territory of this Asian Soviet republic.

It is envisaged, in particular, to complete restoration of the architectural ensemble of Arystanbaba built in the 12th-14th centuries. This is a domed structure with two minarets from baked bricks. It housed a madrasah and a tomb.

Work is under way to restore to its original appearance the architectural complex of Hodja Akhmed Yassavi (14th century). Its walls have already been covered by multicolored tiles with quotations from the Koran.

Wellknown craftsmen, engineers, architects and scientists are taking part in the restoration of ancient monuments of Islamic culture. A secret of the production of extremely durable multicoloured glaze, known to the masters 600 years ago, has been unveiled on the basis of research of the Nuclear Physics Institute. It was possible to develop industrial technology for the production of glazed tiles needed for the restoration of historical architectural structures. A transparent polymeric composition has been developed which can be used for protecting the walls of such structures against the impact of rains and dust storms.

NEW OILFIELD'S FIRST WELL ON STREAM IN NORTH TYUMEN OPENS

LD071105 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Jan 80 p 2 LD

[TASS report: "Opening Up Mineral Wealth"]

[Text] Uray (Tyumenskaya Oblast), 24 January--A new destination has appeared on the itineraries of Tyumenskaya Oblast drivers: The Yem-Yegovskoye oil deposit. Truck trains carrying equipment, structures and fuel have been traveling there along the frozen winter roads.

The oilfield workers have been able to open up the deposit ahead of schedule thanks to the geologists, who revealed the position of the oil-bearing strata there earlier than planned. The Yem-Yegovskoye deposit has initiated the creation of a new oil-producing area in the north of Tyumenskaya Oblast--the Krasnoleninskaya anticline. The new deposits are one of the main reserves whereby the Siberians intend to increase sharply the level of oil extraction in the concluding year of the 5-year plan. In order to expedite their exploitation, a joint action program for scientists, construction workers and oilfield workers has been drawn up in the oblast. It is based on extensive utilization of progressive equipment and the latest scientific achievements. Techniques for drilling deep operational wells have been successfully assimilated. Associated enterprises have in a short time organized the production of oilfield facilities in a so-called superunitized version, in which articles are entirely factory-manufactured and are delivered to the site readymade. All this will enable the Glavtyumenneftegaz collective to extract more than 300 million tons of oil in 1980.

GUIDANCE FOR PROPAGANDA WORKERS ON ECONOMIC POLICY

LD081001 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 6 Signed to Press 4 February 1980 publishes on pages 9 and 10, a 4,000-word article by Yu. Belik under the rubric "Help for the Propaganda Worker": "Party Leadership of Economic Building." The article discusses the importance of the unity of political and economic work and the careful selection of cadres and goes on to describe the role of the organs of state and economic management in implementing the party's economic policy and the role of monitoring the execution of plans and pledges. The final section of the article discusses the organizational work of local and primary party organizations and the new organizational forms for these organizations' activity in connection with the creation of production and scientific and production associations.

RASHIDOV SPEAKS AT UZBEKISTAN PARTY-ECONOMIC AKTIV

LD072302 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Excerpts] In Tashkent today a meeting of the Uzbekistan party-economic aktiv analyzed the results of work in building collectives in the republic the past year and the tasks for the concluding year of the 5-year plan in light of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November 1979 Plenum. Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbekistan Communist Party Central Committee, spoke at the meeting.

LATVIAN AGRICULTURAL, ENERGY PLEDGES FOR 1980

LD071523 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 February 1980 publishes on page 3, under the headline "Ahead of Schedule and To High Standards," a 900-word unattributed report on the "1980 socialist pledges of the Latvian SSR's working people." The pledges include the promise that "1,561,000 tons of milk, 374,000 tons of meat and poultry, 515 million eggs, 281,000 tons of grain, 276,000 tons of potatoes, 271,000 tons of sugar beet and 46,000 tons of grass meal will be sold to the state." The pledges relating to the policy of thrift" include promises to "save at least" "65,000 ideal tons of boiler and furnace fuel, 31,000 tons of diesel fuel, 26,000 tons of gasoline, 140 million kilowatt-hours of electricity and 321,000 gigacalories of thermal energy."

BREZHNEV CONGRATULATES BELORETSK MILL CONSTRUCTION WORKERS

LD071116 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Leonid Ilich Brezhnev has sent greetings to those who took part in the construction of the 150 rolling mill at the Kalinin metallurgical works in Beloretsk. The greetings message reads:

Dear comrades! I congratulate you heartily on your great labor victory: The successful completion of the construction of a modern, automated 150 rolling mill with an annual output of 400,000 tons of rolled metal. The speedy construction of the newly-designed high-speed mill incorporating a heat treatment section is a substantial contribution to the fulfillment of the 25th CPSU Congress decisions on the further development of the ferrous metallurgy industry and its technical reequipment. The use of the progressive output produced by the mill will make it possible to increase labor productivity during production of metal articles, considerably improve their quality, and bring about a great economic benefit to a number of branches of the national economy.

The construction of the 150 mill, the message notes further, is one example of the fruitful fulfillment of the comprehensive program of socialist economic integration. The mill was designed and built in collaboration with workers and engineers from the GDR. Leonid Ilich Brezhnev expressed the conviction that the steel workers of the combine would devote all their strength, knowledge and experience to assimilating the capacities of the rolling mill as soon as possible, and would mark the 110th anniversary of the birth of Vladimir Ilich Lenin with fresh labor successes.

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

CSA REPORTS ON REPAIR OF FARM MACHINERY

LD070040 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2050 GMT 6 Feb 80 LD

[Text] The USSR Central Statistical Administration has reported on progress in preparing equipment for the spring sowing campaign. The stock of tractors has been expanded and there are more than 2.5 million of them in the farms now. Some 85 percent of the machines are ready for work. The information in the report indicates that the overhaul of all the equipment required for the spring sowing is proceeding faster than last year, so 90 to 93 percent of the ploughs, cultivators and sowers have been overhauled.

KURSK FARMS USE CHOPPED TWIGS TO SUPPLEMENT FODDER

LD061315 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1100 GMT on 6 February carries a dispatch from its Kursk correspondent on livestock wintering. He interviews A.A. (Zalogin), chief of the fodder production section of the oblast agricultural department who says that "on every farm teams have been set up to provide twigs for fodder purposes. Poplars, elms, pines and firs are used." They go to the woods under the guidance of a forester and prune the trees; the twigs are chopped on the farm and mixed with straw and other fodder. The twigs contain many nutrients, and the pruning improves the condition of the woods. On some farms a daily increase of up to 2 kg of milk has been achieved since chopped twigs were added.

SHEVARDNADZE SPEAKS ON AGRICULTURAL PROBLEMS

LD071655 [Editorial Report LD] Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 22 January 1980 carries on pages 1 and 2 a 7,000-word GRUZINFORM report entitled "Bon Voyage, Young Rural Specialists!" which includes the 6,000-word text of the speech by E.A. Shevar nadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee, at the graduation ceremony for Georgian agricultural VUZ students held on 19 January at the Georgian Order of the Red Banner Agricultural Institute. Shevardnadze notes the importance of highly qualified cadres in "developing and restructuring the national economy which includes agriculture." He outlines Georgia's agricultural achievements in recent years and targets to be achieved by 1990 in Georgian agriculture. He goes on to castigate young specialists who refuse to work in the countryside after receiving an expensive education and also outlines a number of shortcomings in agricultural work, including the "low standard of arable farming and livestock raising," "poor yields" on irrigated land, losses of produce during transportation and inadequate crop density in orchards, vineyards and tea plantations. He also notes the importance of the intensification of agricultural production, steps for the comprehensive mechanization of agricultural work, and the better use of chemicals and fertilizers. After listing a number of specific recommendations in the livestock sphere he turns to the need to improve the standard of economic backup services for agriculture and ends by informing the young graduates of their future mission in life, including their duty to foster an improved "moral-political climate."

COSMOS-1155 SPUTNIK LAUNCH REPORTED

LD071534 Moscow TASS in English 1527 GMT 7 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 7, TASS--The Soviet Union today launched the Cosmos-1155 sputnik that carries scientific equipment for further space research.

The sputnik's parameters are as follows: initial period of revolution--90.4 minutes, maximum distance from the surface of the earth--422 km, minimum distance--206 km, inclination of orbit--72.9 degrees.

The equipment on board the satellite is functioning normally.

NOVIKOV INTERVIEWS ON SOVIET-FRENCH ARCAD 3 EXPERIMENT

LD061342 Moscow TASS in English 1301 GMT 6 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 6, TASS--A new Soviet-French space experiment ARCAD 3 is to be carried out in 1981, a TASS correspondent has been told by Nikolay Novikov, deputy chairman of the Intercosmos Council under the Academy of Sciences of the USSR. Questions of the preparation for joint explorations were discussed at a meeting of Soviet and French specialists.

Instruments, designed by engineers of the two countries, will be installed at a Soviet Intercosmos sputnik.

The main aim of the experiment, said Nikolay Novikov, is to study different phenomena in the ionosphere and magnetosphere, including during polar lights. A number of joint conferences of scientists of the two countries were held in the course of preparations for the experiment. The deputy chairman of the Intercosmos Council said that the Soviet-French experiment would continue two joint projects, earlier implemented within the framework of the ARCAD program.

The sputniks Oreol-1 and Oreol-2 were launched in the Soviet Union in accordance with the ARCAD program in 1971 and 1973. They had scientific equipment designed in the USSR and France for the exploration of physical phenomena in the upper layers of the earth's atmosphere.

These experiments, said Nikolay Novikov, yielded important scientific data on the physics of polar lights. The analysis of this data is continuing at the computing centers of the Space Research Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR and at the National Centre of Space Explorations of France. Specialists expect that realisation of the ARCAD 3 project will help replenish the volume of scientific information.

BRIEFS

FERTILIZER WORKS--At the Cherepovets Chemical Works a major complex for the production of nitrogen-phosphorous fertilizers has gone into operation. It will produce sufficient fertilizers to raise the yields of several million hectares of fields in the Non-Chernozem and Volga areas. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1750 GMT 5 Feb 80 LD]

OIL DEPOSIT DEVELOPMENT--Development of the new (Nonkdzheganskoye) oil deposit has started in Tyumenskaya Oblast. The first production well has been sunk here. Tyumenskaya Oblast now accounts for half the oil and a third of the gas extracted in our country. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2050 GMT 5 Feb 80 LD]

MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

LEONTYEV: USSR FRIENDSHIP WITH VIETNAM STRENGTHENS

LD081133 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Jan 80 p 3 LD

[Col A. Leontyev article: "The Strength of Our Friendship: Regarding the 30th Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations Between the USSR and Vietnam"]

[Excerpts] For many years now this proud word--Vietnam--has been heard in all languages. For hundreds of millions of people it is a symbol of courage, determination and fearlessness in the struggle for independence and socialism. And it serves as a stern warning for those who, swollen with arrogance and well-versed in hypocrisy, scream about their "vital interests" and "security" and, under this false pretext, snatch up weapons once again, interfere in other people's affairs, lecture and "punish" other peoples.

In its time American imperialism turned Vietnam into a testing ground for trying out that same "doctrine of anything goes" which President Carter has now proclaimed, passing it off as some kind of novelty. At the peak of the escalation of American aggression in Indochina, the United States and its allies used over 1.2 million soldiers and officers, 3,000 airplanes, 2.5 thousand helicopters, more than 800 tanks and armored personnel carriers, 4,000 guns and mortars. The aggressor was confident that he would succeed in bringing Vietnam to its knees. In actual fact the Vietnam war ended as the most catastrophic defeat for the United States during the whole 200 years of its history. And not because this defeat, as American "hawks" try to make believe, was the "result of feebleness of will and a sentimental reluctance to kill enough people quickly enough." But because in the American policy of those years (as today too) there was no real account taken of the international situation, the potential of the United States was overestimated and the potential of the peoples to fittingly rebuff the aggressor was underestimated.

The Vietnamese people gained victory because they were fighting for a just cause, for freedom and unification of the motherland, for socialism; because the Vietnam Communist Party created 50 years ago, headed their struggle; because they had the resolute backing of the Soviet Union and of other countries of the socalist community and of all the progressive public of the world.

The presumptious aggressors felt for themselves the strength of our friendship and solidarity when they tried to stifle the Vietnamese revolution and enslave the heroic people. The Soviet people wholeheartedly greeted the birth of the first worker and peasant state in Southeast Asia and sided with its just cause.

The Beijing hegemonists, who attacked Vietnam in February of last year, also felt for themselves the strength and effectiveness of Soviet-Vietnamese friendship and solidarity. True to the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam [SRV] our country demanded a quick withdrawal of Chinese troops, declared its readiness to fulfill its duty as an ally and rendered to Vietnam all the help which the Vietnamese side thought necessary.

With each passing year the friendship between the peoples of the USSR and the SRV strengthens and the links between our armies develop. Now that Chinese hegemonists in collusion with American imperialists are broadening provocations against the SRV and are exacerbating tension in Southeast Asia, the strength of our solidarity is of particularly important significance.

Soviet people are full of determination to strengthen and develop friendship and cooperation with the SRV for the good of the peoples of our countries and of all the socialist community, in the interests of peace in Asia, and throughout the world.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL STAFF PARTY AKTIV MEETS

LD281051 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Jan 80 p 3 LD

[Col P. Mochalov report: "Party Aktiv Meeting"]

[Text] A meeting of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff Party Aktiv has taken place. It discussed the question of increasing the role of party organizations in the fulfillment of tasks arising from the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November (1979) Plenum and L.I. Brezhnev's speech at the plenum.

A report was delivered by Marshal of the Soviet Union N. Ogarkov, chief of the Armed Forces General Staff and USSR first deputy defense minister.

The report and speeches by Communists V. Varennikov, V. Abolins, A. Belov, M. Lebedev, K. Trusov, B. Byzov, A. Merezhko and others discussed the main problems of further increasing the militancy of party organizations, improving communists' work style and stepping up cadres' personal responsibility for the tasks entrusted to them.

Taking part in the work of the meeting were V. Drugov, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Administrative Organs section, and Lt Gen V. Balakirev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate Party Organizational Work Directorate.

REVIEW OF GENERAL TOLUBKO'S BOOK PUBLISHED

LD041529 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian on 20 January 1980 publishes on page 2 under the rubic "Notes About Books: the Graphic Example of Service to the Motherland" a 900-word review by Artillery Marshal P. Kuleshov of a book by Army Genral V. Tolubko entitled "Nedelin: First Commander in Chief of the Strategic Forces" [Nedelin. Pervyy Glavkom Strategicheskikh], Molodaya Gvardiya Publishing House, 1979, noting that "the author has succeeded in revealing profoundly and comprehensively the fascinating image of this remarkable man."